SITTINGBOURNE AND MILTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for

1962

S I T T I N G B O U R N E A N D M I L T O N

U R B A N D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for

1 9 6 2

JOHN T. MURPHY

M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

C O N T E N T S

SITTINGBOURNE AND MILTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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CLERICAL STAFF:

O.A. Kent

Miss B. Thomas

SITTINGBOURNE AND MILTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Health Offices,
Johnson House,
Burley Road,
SITTINGBOURNE, Kent.

August, 1963.

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary circumstances of the Urban District for 1962.

The Registrar General's estimate of population for 1962 shows an increase of 640 over 1961, to 24,270. The number of births (423) is again the highest since 1947 and the corrected birth and death rates of 17.4 and 11.8 are to be compared with that of England and Wales which was 18.0 and 11.9 respectively. The total number of deaths ascribed to the Urban District was 322 of whom 95 died in Milton Hospital; 246 were over 65 years of age, while 179 were over 75 years.

1962 was a cold, harsh year and probably contributed to the number of deaths (35) ascribed to Bronchitis and Pneumonia.

There were 8 deaths of infants under one year, which gave an infant mortality of 18.8, to be compared with 21.4 for England and Wales which is the lowest ever recorded. Four of the deaths occurred from respiratory disease, between 3 - 4 months.

The incidence of infectious disease was very low, being only 52 compared with 736 in the previous year and, although no notifications of Pneumonia were received during the year, there were 23 deaths ascribed to Pneumonia.

There were 11 notifications of Tuberculosis, 2 of which were non-Pulmonary due to Tuberculosis of the spine and wrist.

Confirmation by the Minister of Housing and Local Government of the final area in your five-year's slum clearance programme brought to an end the first phase amounting altogether to 500 houses demolished since 1946. A report was submitted to the Council outlining a further programme involving about 344 houses.

The improvement grant schemes for which completed certificates have been received, were 187 discretionary grants and 35 standard grants since the scheme began. This rate of progress would appear to be completely inadequate if the standard of houses built over fifty years ago are to be improved.

A comprehensive survey on atmospheric pollution within the Urban District was commenced in the Summer and the report was submitted to the Council in February, 1963. It would appear from the report that further evidence would be necessary to ascertain the amount of the pollution delivered in the various districts of the Town, but the Council did not agree with the purchase of measuring instruments to achieve this information.

Respiratory disease over the 10 years prior to 1962 did not show any significant increase over that of neighbouring Authorities, but there appeared to be an increase in infant deaths from this cause during the year under review.

I wish, once again, to record my thanks to the Health Department who carry out their work cheerfully and with the least possible friction to the Public. Mr. A. Leslie, your Chief Public Health Inspector, is a valuable source of help to me personally as I have to rely upon him to keep me informed about the Public Health situation within the District.

I wish also to record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their interest and courtesy throughout the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN T. MURPHY

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION I

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

1. Climatology

The weather during 1962 was very cold and dry. North-East winds were experienced during the early months of the Year and persisted well into the Summer months keeping the temperatures below average.

The rainfall recorded in the Urban District was 22.16 inches only during the Year; this figure being the lowest since 1953 when as little as 20.35 inches were recorded.

The heaviest rainfall occurred on 25th October, when 1.04 inches were recorded.

Thunderstorms occurred in the Urban District on 11 occasions, and the wettest month was November, when the rainfall recorded was 2.91 inches.

Dense fog, the worst for very many years, occurred during the period 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th December, at the same time as very sharp frosts, the temperature dropping to 16°F.

During the Year, there were 12 falls of Snow locally (1 occasion in January; 4 occasions in February; 2 occasions in March and 5 occasions in December).

Temperatures dropped below freezing point on 71 occasions (8 in January; 12 in February; 18 in March; 1 in April; 4 in October; 8 in November and 20 in December) as compared with 34 occasions in 1961; 41 occasions in 1960; 45 occasions in 1959 and 67 occasions in 1958.

The hottest days of the Year were the 14th July and 20th August, when temperatures of 80°F. were recorded.

The coldest day of the Year was the 6th December, when a temperature of 16°F. was recorded.

The total hours of Sunshine during the Year (as recorded at the Kent Farm Institute) was 1652.5.

Monthly rainfall readings recorded at Highsted Waterworks over the past six years are shown in Appendix "A" and Appendix "B" shows the monthly maximum and minimum Temperatures for the Years 1959, 1960, 1961 and 1962.

2. Area in Acres

Land and Inland Water 4,935

No change.

3. Population

The estimated mid-year population for 1962, as given by the Registrar-General, was 24,270, an increase of 640 against the mid-year population for 1961.

The Census figure taken in April, 1961 was 23,616.

4. Number of Inhabited Houses

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1962 was 7,786.

5. Rateable Value

The rateable value at 31st December, 1962, was £421,722 as compared with £412,080 at the end of 1961.

6. Sum Representing Penny Rate

The sum representing a penny rate in 1962 was £1,735 as compared with £1,690 in 1961.

SECTION II

VITAL STATISTICS

1. Births

The number of Births registered during 1962 was 423 as compared with 403 in the previous year.

The number of Births each year for the period from 1930 to 1962 inclusive will be seen upon reference to the details contained in Table III.

(a) Live Births

	Males	Females	Totals
Legitimate	223 (205)	182 (174)	405 (379)*
Illegitimate	9 (15)	9 (9)	18 (24)
Totals	232 (220)	191 (183)	423 (403)

The percentage of illegitimate births was 4.4% as against 6.3% in 1961; 4.4% in 1960; 5.6% in 1959 and 3.2% in 1958.

(b) Birth Rate

The crude birth rate per 1,000 of the population was 17.4 in 1962 as against 17.0 in 1961; 15.3 in 1960; 17.4 in 1959 and 16.8 in 1958. Figures for the years from 1930 to date will be seen upon reference to the details contained in Table III.

The corrected birth rate is 17.4 as compared with 18.0 per thousand for England and Wales as a whole.

(c) Still-Births

Eleven still-births occurred during the year. This compares with 9 in 1961; 7 in 1960; 7 in 1959 and 6 in 1958.

The percentage of still-births to live births for the year was 2.6%. This compares with the figures of 2.2% for 1961; 2.0% for 1960; 1.7% for 1959 and 1.5% for 1958.

There were 2 illegitimate still-births during the year.

Footnote:- *Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

2. Deaths

(a) The number of deaths occurring in and assignable to the Urban District during 1962 was 322. This figure represents 161 males and 161 females.

Figures for previous years back to 1930 may be seen upon reference to the details contained in Table III.

Of the 322 deaths assigned to Sittingbourne during 1962, a total of 95 occurred in Milton Hospital, but only 33 of these were actually persons previously resident in the Urban District. The figures for 1961 were 315 - 122 - 44; for 1960 were 293 - 129 - 49; for 1959 were 282 - 132 - 51 and for 1958 were 336 - 190 - 70.

The average age of death was 75.5 being 72.6 for males and 78.4 for females. The oldest death was a female aged 96 years. The average age of death during 1961 was 70.1, being 65.5 for males and 74.4 for females.

The following Table shows the age groups in which the Deaths occurred:-

TABLE I

Sex	Under 1 Year.	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 and over
Males	4	-	-	-	1	2	7	37	41	69
Females ...	4	-	-	-	-	1	2	18	26	110
Totals	8	-	-	-	1	3	9	55	67	179

(b) Death Rate

The crude death rate for 1962 was 13.2 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 13.3 per 1,000 in the preceding year. The figures for 1960, 1959 and 1958 were 12.8, 12.4 and 14.9 respectively.

The figure for the year under review can only be compared with those for the years back to 1953, due to the inclusion in local statistics of all deaths at Milton Hospital irrespective of original place of residence under the new arrangements adopted by the Registrar General which came into force on the 1st January, 1953. However, the figures for previous years back to 1930 are included in Table III.

The corrected death rate is 11.8 per 1,000 as compared with 11.9 per 1,000 for England and Wales as a whole.

(c) The causes of death classified by the Registrar-General under the 36 headings based on the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948, are set out in Table II below:-

TABLE II

Causes	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	1 (-)	- (-)	1 (-)*
2. Tuberculosis, other	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
3. Syphilitic disease	1 (3)	- (-)	1 (3)
4. Diphtheria	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
5. Whooping Cough	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
6. Meningococcal Infections	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
8. Measles	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	6 (3)	3 (5)	9 (8)
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	11 (16)	- (1)	11 (17)
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	- (1)	4 (7)	4 (8)
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	- (-)	5 (-)	5 (-)
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	16 (7)	9 (15)	25 (22)
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1 (-)	- (-)	1 (-)
16. Diabetes	- (1)	1 (1)	1 (2)
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	28 (34)	37 (39)	65 (73)
18. Coronary disease, angina	39 (25)	24 (22)	63 (47)
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1 (1)	3 (5)	4 (6)
20. Other heart disease	14 (16)	30 (23)	44 (39)
21. Other circulatory disease	5 (7)	6 (2)	11 (9)
22. Influenza	- (4)	1 (5)	1 (9)
23. Pneumonia	10 (7)	11 (7)	21 (14)
24. Bronchitis	6 (8)	8 (6)	14 (14)
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	- (2)	- (1)	- (3)
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2 (1)	1 (1)	3 (2)
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	- (-)	1 (-)	1 (-)
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	5 (-)	- (-)	5 (-)
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
31. Congenital malformations	1 (1)	- (1)	1 (2)
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	11 (14)	11 (14)	22 (28)
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1 (2)	1 (1)	2 (3)
34. All other accidents	2 (3)	4 (2)	6 (5)
35. Suicide	- (-)	1 (1)	1 (1)
36. Homicide and operations of War	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
All Causes	161 (156)	161 (159)	322 (315)

Footnote:- *Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

(d) The following Table gives details of deaths, births and infantile mortality for the period 1930 to 1962 inclusive.

TABLE III

Year	Population	Deaths		Births					Infant Mortality			
		Number of Deaths at all Ages	Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the Population	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total	Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 of the Population	Still-Births	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total	Deaths of Infants under 1 year of Age per 1,000 Births
1930	19,838	257	12.8	332	20	352	17.6	7	14	1	15	42.6
1931	20,175	226	11.2	339	6	345	17.1	7	10	1	11	31.8
1932	20,320	222	10.9	342	13	355	17.4	12	22	1	23	64.7
1933	20,350	256	12.5	337	13	350	17.1	14	22	-	22	62.8
1934	20,480	265	12.9	321	8	329	16.0	10	16	2	18	54.7
1935	20,700	237	11.4	340	8	348	16.4	15	11	-	11	31.6
1936	20,920	245	11.7	296	11	307	14.6	15	12	-	12	39.0
1937	20,880	244	11.6	322	13	335	16.0	1	11	-	11	32.8
1938	20,950	218	10.4	293	10	303	14.4	14	9	1	10	33.0
1939	20,860	262	12.4	318	10	328	15.7	15	8	1	9	27.4
1940	20,670	280	13.5	311	9	320	15.4	10	18	1	19	59.3
1941	19,880	247	12.4	257	11	268	13.4	7	6	-	6	22.3
1942	19,270	233	12.0	291	18	309	16.0	9	16	-	16	51.7
1943	18,790	249	13.2	334	14	348	18.5	13	17	-	17	48.8
1944	18,790	231	12.2	340	31	371	19.7	9	16	4	20	53.9
1945	19,140	236	12.3	350	34	384	20.0	11	12	3	15	39.0
1946	21,040	230	10.9	419	31	450	21.3	12	13	1	14	31.1
1947	21,560	248	11.5	509	23	532	24.4	15	17	-	17	31.9
1948	22,240	228	10.2	385	12	397	17.8	7	8	-	8	20.1
1949	22,150	271	12.2	355	19	374	16.8	7	15	-	15	37.4
1950	22,340	228	10.2	328	15	343	15.3	7	8	-	8	23.3
1951	21,920	265	12.0	332	15	347	15.8	8	14	-	14	40.3
1952	21,940	244	11.1	331	15	346	15.7	3	9	-	9	26.0
1953	21,930	433	19.7	340	17	357	16.2	6	16	-	16	44.8
1954	21,940	318	14.4	298	18	316	14.4	7	4	-	4	12.6
1955	21,970	347	15.7	327	16	343	15.6	4	4	-	4	11.6
1956	22,060	397	17.9	316	16	332	15.0	7	8	1	9	27.1
1957	22,260	398	17.8	362	19	381	17.1	11	11	-	11	28.8
1958	22,470	336	14.9	367	12	379	16.8	6	2	-	2	5.2
1959	22,700	282	12.4	374	21	395	17.4	7	7	-	7	17.7
1960	22,870	293	12.8	335	15	350	15.3	7	6	-	6	17.1
1961	23,630	315	13.3	379	24	403	17.0	9	13	2	15	37.2
1962	24,270	322	13.2	405	18	423	17.4	11	7	1	8	18.8

3. Infantile Mortality

(a) Eight deaths of Infants under one year of age were recorded during the year under review, as compared with 15 in 1961; 6 in 1960; 7 in 1959 and 2 in 1958.

The infant mortality rate for the year was 18.8 per thousand live births. The rates for 1961 and 1960 were 37.2 and 17.1 respectively. The rates for previous years may be seen upon reference to Table III.

The infant mortality rate for England and Wales as a whole was 21.4 per thousand live births.

Of the 8 deaths recorded, 4 were infants under four weeks of age, resulting in a Neo-Natal mortality rate of 9.4 per thousand live births as compared with that for England and Wales as a whole of 15.1 per thousand live births.

The Perinatal Mortality Rate was 32.2 per thousand total live and stillbirths.

The Maternal Mortality was - Nil.

(b) The detailed causes of death among infants during 1962 were as follows:-

TABLE IV

Cause	Sex	Age at Death	Place of Birth	Place of Death
Virus Pneumonia	F	4 months	Hospital	Hospital
Acute Bronchitis - Prematurity	F	3 months	Hospital	Hospital
Acute Bronchiolitis	M	3 months	Home	Home
Atelectasis - Diabetic Mother	F	11 hours	Hospital	Hospital
Prematurity - 28 weeks	M	2 hours	Hospital	Hospital
Prematurity	M	18 hours	Hospital	Hospital
Broncho-Pneumonia	M	2 weeks	Hospital	Hospital
Pulmonary Oedema - Acute Bronchitis - Otitis Media	F	4 months	Home	Home

SECTION III

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

THEIR PREVALENCE AND CONTROL

1. Notifiable Diseases - Incidence

The Department received 52 notifications of cases of notifiable Infectious Disease, as occurring in the Urban District during the Year. This figure compares with 736 cases in 1961.

The figures for previous Years are detailed in Table VIII.

The incidence of these notified cases in each Quarter of the Year, was as follows:-

1st Quarter - 29; 2nd Quarter - 4; 3rd Quarter - 6; 4th Quarter - 13.

The main causes for notification were Measles (23), Scarlet Fever (13) and Tuberculosis (11).

Of the 23 cases of Measles notified, 21 cases were Children under School Age. The remainder (2) were School Children in the age group 5 - 10 years.

The cases of Scarlet Fever were again of a generally mild nature and, with the exception of one case admitted to Keycol Hospital, were all isolated and treated in their own homes. Four cases were in respect of Children under School age and 8 cases were of School Children in the age group 5 - 10 years. The remaining case was a Female aged 16 years.

The 3 cases of Whooping Cough notified were Children under School age.

The single case of Encephalitis notified was a Male, aged 26 years, who was admitted to Keycol Hospital.

A suspected case of Smallpox was notified on Friday, 19th January, 1962. The patient being a male, aged 24 years, employed as a draughtsman in London.

A Consultant was called in and on the 20th January, 1962, examined the patient. In his opinion it was not a case of Smallpox.

In the interval between notification and final diagnosis the Department formulated a plan of action to be taken if the case was confirmed. In the event this plan did not require to be put into effect.

Details of the 11 cases of Tuberculosis notified are shown in Tables VI and IX.

(a) The total number of cases occurring, number of cases admitted to Hospital and the total deaths from each disease as shown in the Registrar-General's classification of deaths, are shown in the following Table:-

TABLE V

Disease	No. of Cases.	Admissions to Hospital or Sanatorium.	Deaths
Smallpox	1 (-)	- (-)	- (-)*
Scarlet Fever	13 (23)	1 (-)	- (-)
Diphtheria	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Measles	23 (688)	- (2)	- (-)
Whooping Cough	3 (12)	- (1)	- (-)
Food Poisoning	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Dysentery	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Erysipelas	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Pneumonia	- (-)	- (-)	21 (14)
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Poliomyelitis - Non-Paralytic	- (1)	- (1)	- (-)
Meningitis	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Tuberculosis:-			
Pulmonary	9 (9)	8 (7)	1 (-)
Non-Pulmonary	2 (3)	1 (2)	- (-)
Para-Typhoid	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Encephalitis	1 (-)	1 (-)	- (-)
Totals	52 (736)	11 (13)	22 (14)

Footnote:- *Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

(b) The distribution by age group of the cases notified is shown in Table VI thus:-

TABLE VI

Age Groups of Cases Notified

Disease	Under 1 Year	1 - 3	3 - 5	5 - 10	10 - 15	15 - 25	25 - 35	35 - 45	45 - 60	60 and Over	Total
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever ...	-	2	2	8	-	1	-	-	-	-	13
Diphtheria ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	1	9	11	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	23
Whooping Cough ...	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Food Poisoning ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis -											
Non-Paralytic ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paralytic ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningitis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Para-Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis:-											
Pulmonary ...	-	1	-	-	-	3	2	2	-	1	9
Non-Pulmonary ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
Encephalitis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Totals	1	12	15	11	-	5	3	3	-	2	52

(c) The monthly incidence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) in the Urban District, during 1962, is shown in the following Table VII:-

TABLE VII

Monthly Incidence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1962

Disease	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Totals
Scarlet Fever ...	-	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	2	13
Measles	18	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	23
Smallpox ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Encephalitis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Whooping Cough ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	3
Totals	19	4	2	2	-	-	1	1	1	1	7	3	41

(d) Table VIII shows the number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified each year during the past twelve years.

TABLE VIII

Disease	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
Smallpox ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever	18	29	26	67	34	13	25	42	101	60	23	13
Diphtheria ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles ...	226	297	332	-	439	6	737	52	175	167	688	23
Whooping Cough	219	32	26	168	5	11	139	28	1	50	12	3
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	-	3	-	5	-	2	1	-	-
Dysentery ...	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas ...	5	2	2	5	4	1	-	5	-	1	-	-
Pneumonia ...	1	4	2	3	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-
Typhus Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fever ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Puerperal Fever) Puerperal Pyrexia)	3	-	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	5	5	2	2	8	-	6	-	-	-	1	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Malaria ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

2. Tuberculosis

During the year, 9 new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified. This figure compares with 9 new cases in 1961; 8 new cases in 1960; 4 new cases in 1959; 17 in 1958 and 27 in 1957.

In addition, 2 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified.

The age groups of new cases notified during 1962 are shown in Table IX, and Table X gives a Summary of Cases on the Tuberculosis Register during the year under review, from which it will be noted that the total number of cases has risen from 214 at the beginning of the year, to 225 at 31st December, 1962.

TABLE IX

Age Groups of New Cases of Tuberculosis Notified during 1962

Age Group	Type	Total	Male	Female
0 - 1	Pulmonary	-	-	-
1 - 5	"	1	1	-
5 - 10	"	-	-	-
10 - 15	"	-	-	-
15 - 20	"	2	1	1
20 - 25	"	1	1	-
25 - 35	"	2	2	-
35 - 45	"	2	2	-
	Non-Pulmonary	1	1	-
45 - 55	Pulmonary	-	-	-
55 - 65	Non-Pulmonary	1	1	-
65 and Over	Pulmonary	1	-	1
	Totals	11	9	2

TABLE X

Summary of Tuberculosis Register

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
On Register on 1st January, 1962	201	13	214
Notified as 'New' Cases ...	9	2	11
Transferred to District ...	5	-	5
Restored to Register ...	-	-	-
Totals	215	15	230
Died	4	-	4 +
Recovered	1	-	1
Removed from District ...	-	-	-
Diagnosis Changed	-	-	-
Totals	5	-	5
Balance remaining on Register on 31st December, 1962 ...	210	15	225

+ This figure refers to patients on the Tuberculosis Register who have died - not necessarily from Tuberculosis.

Information kindly supplied by Dr. Owen Clarke and Dr. N.F. Crofts, Chest Physicians, Chest Clinic, Keycol Hospital, shows that 11 patients from the Urban District were admitted to Hospital or Sanatoria for treatment during the Year.

Nine patients were admitted to Keycol Hospital and 2 patients were admitted to the Royal Sea Bathing Hospital, Margate.

This indicates that 4.8% of the patients on the Tuberculosis Register were admitted to Hospital or Sanatoria for treatment during 1962, as compared with 5.6% in 1961; 5.4% in 1960 and 1.5% in 1959.

During the Year the Sittingbourne, Milton and District Tuberculosis Care Committee received 54 appeals for assistance from patients in the area, and the sum of £350 was expended in relieving their anxieties by the provision of bedding, clothing, fares, rates, lighting and heating etc., and by sending 8 recommended Cases on Holiday.

Seven new Cases were referred to the Committee by the Chest Physicians at Keycol Hospital.

The following Table XI gives details of Notifications received, Deaths and the Death Rate per 10,000 of the Population, for both Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary cases, during the period from 1930 to 1962 inclusive.

TABLE XI

Year	Number of Primary Notifications Received		Deaths		Death Rate per 10,000 of Population	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1930	30	3	24	3	12.1	1.5
1931	19	8	11	2	5.4	0.9
1932	20	3	11	2	5.3	0.9
1933	24	1	17	1	8.3	0.4
1934	15	3	17	1	8.3	0.4
1935	12	7	9	2	4.3	0.9
1936	12	5	10	1	4.7	0.4
1937	12	9	13	-	6.2	-
1938	12	4	8	2	3.8	0.9
1939	13	4	13	2	6.2	0.9
1940	11	1	11	1	5.3	0.4
1941	9	3	7	1	3.5	0.5
1942	15	4	8	-	4.0	-
1943	9	4	8	3	4.2	1.5
1944	14	3	7	1	3.7	0.5
1945	22	2	7	1	3.0	0.5
1946	14	2	9	1	4.0	0.4
1947	19	5	6	2	2.8	0.9
1948	19	6	8	1	3.5	0.4
1949	20	3	10	2	4.5	0.9
1950	18	6	1	1	0.4	0.4
1951	15	2	3	-	1.3	-
1952	17	1	3	1	1.3	0.4
1953	16	-	4	-	1.8	-
1954	19	3	-	1	-	0.4
1955	19	1	2	-	0.9	-
1956	15	-	3	1	1.3	0.4
1957	27	-	-	-	-	-
1958	17	1	5	-	2.2	-
1959	4	1	-	1	-	0.4
1960	8	1	-	-	-	-
1961	9	3	-	-	-	-
1962	9	2	1	-	0.4	-

3. Venereal Diseases

Dr. C.D. Routh, Director and Medical Officer in Charge of the Special Clinic in Rochester has again very kindly supplied me with the following information regarding cases and number of attendances from this Urban District during the Year.

Disease	Males	Females	Total
Syphilis	2 (1)	- (1)	2 (2)*
Gonorrhoea	2 (2)	- (4)	2 (6)
Other Conditions	9 (13)	3 (3)	12 (16)
Totals	13 (16)	3 (8)	16 (24)

The above refer to new Cases during the Year.

The total number of attendances at this Clinic during the Year was 157.

Details of new Cases and attendances in previous Years are as follows:-

Year	New Cases	Attendances	Year	New Cases	Attendances
1961	24	193	1956	25	220
1960	17	123	1955	16	279
1959	15	66	1954	23	319
1958	17	205	1953	11	262
1957	19	250	1952	7	191
			1951	13	308

Footnote:- *Figures in brackets relate to the preceding Year.

4. Vaccinations and Immunisations

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health (Dr. A. Elliott) for once again very kindly supplying figures in connection with Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisations, and Vaccinations against Smallpox and Poliomyelitis, as follows:-

(a) Diphtheria Immunisation

During the year the following cases were protected against Diphtheria:-

Under 5 years	434	(397)*
5 - 14 years	14	(55)
Reinforcing dose	219	(273)

(b) Whooping Cough Immunisation

A total of 435 children were immunised against Whooping Cough during 1962, as compared with 433 children in the previous year.

(c) Vaccination against Smallpox

The following cases were vaccinated against Smallpox during 1962:-

Under 1 year	302	(202)*
1 - 4 years	70	(16)
5 - 14 years	104	(12)
15+ years	93	(4)
Revaccinations	66	(-)

(d) Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

The following vaccinations against Poliomyelitis were carried out during the year:-

Age Group	2 Injections (Salk)	3rd Dose (Salk and Oral)	4th Dose (Salk and Oral)	3 Orals (Complete Course)
1962	-	-	-	50
1961	9	90	-	193
1957 - 1960	75	249	-	39
1943 - 1956	10	204	184	29
1933 - 1942	18	138	-	28
Others	27	425	-	40

Footnote:- *Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

5. International Certificates of Vaccination

As a result of the outbreaks of Smallpox in England and Wales in the early part of the Year, restrictions were imposed upon travellers by all European Countries and International Certificates of Vaccination were necessary for entry into these Countries.

In addition to the usual requirements of local people leaving this Area for such parts of the World as the United States of America, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India, Pakistan etc., the Department was inundated with requests for Certificates by local residents going abroad on Holiday. It was found necessary for special supplies of such Certificates to be obtained from the Ministry of Health for the use of Doctors in the Urban District.

During the Year, 979 International Certificates of Vaccination were presented to the Department for the Medical Officer of Health to authenticate the signatures of the Doctors concerned.

In the Years 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960 and 1961, the number of Certificates dealt with by the Department were 127, 93, 112, 110 and 177 respectively.

SECTION IV

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

1. National Health Services

Local Authority Health Services under the National Health Service Act are provided and administered by the Kent County Council as the local Health Authority. These Services include the Care of Mothers and Young Children; the provision of Midwives; Health Visiting and Home Nursing; Vaccination and Immunisation; Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care and Domestic Help Services.

Infant and Child Welfare, School Health and Dental Clinics are held at Sutton House, London Road, Sittingbourne.

The dates and times of all Clinics held at Sutton House are shown in the following table:-

Clinics and Sessions	Date	Time
Infant Welfare	Tuesday and Friday	2 - 4 p.m.
Ante-Natal - Midwives Clinics	Thursday	2 - 4 p.m.
Relaxation and Mothercraft Classes for Expectant Mothers	Thursday	9.30 a.m. - 11.15 a.m.
Orthopaedic (by appointment)	Orthopaedic Surgeon attends 2nd Tuesday in each month	10 a.m. - 12 noon
	Exercises Wednesday and Friday	10 a.m. - 12 noon
Minor Ailments	Monday	3.45 - 4.45 p.m.
Dental	Monday, Wednesday and Friday	9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Ophthalmic	Monday	1.30 - 3 p.m.
	Alternate Thursday Mornings	by appointment
Child Guidance	--	by appointment
Chiropody (for Old Age Pensioners)	--	by appointment

In addition to the Clinics held at Sutton House, it has been found necessary to provide Infant and Child Welfare Clinics in other parts of the Urban District. These are as follows:-

Thursdays - from 2 to 4 p.m., at the Congregational Hall, Crown Road, Milton Regis - Doctor and Health Visitor in attendance - for the benefit of Mothers and Children residing in the Milton and Kemsley areas.

Wednesdays - from 2 to 4 p.m., at the Old Welfare Hall, Church Road, Murston - Doctor and Health Visitor in attendance - for the benefit of Mothers and Children residing in the Murston and Canterbury Road areas.

2nd and 4th Fridays in each Month - from 2 to 4 p.m., at the Village Hall, London Road, Bapchild - Doctor and Health Visitor in attendance - for the benefit of Mothers and Children residing in Bapchild and the eastern end of the Canterbury Road Estate areas.

Vaccinations and Immunisations are given at all Infant Welfare Clinics, if required, as follows:-

At 3rd, 4th and 5th Month - Triple injections against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus.

At 6 Months - Protection against Poliomyelitis, by Oral Vaccine.

At 1 - 2 Years - Vaccination against Smallpox.

All other persons up to the age of 40 years are eligible for receiving protection against Poliomyelitis, by Oral Vaccine, by arrangements with their own Doctor.

The three Health Visitors (Kent County Council Staff) at Sutton House, who cover the Urban District of Sittingbourne and Milton, are - Miss B. Clarke, Miss S. Ballweg and Mrs M. Cheeseman.

Mental Welfare is provided by the Regional Hospital Board for patients from the Urban District, at 13, South Road, Faversham. The Sessions for the Clinics are held on Thursday evenings at 5 o'clock.

A Nursery Class for partially Deaf Children between the ages of three and five years is held in Gillingham and children from this Urban District are able to attend.

A School for Handicapped Children is held at the Bobbing Training Centre, Village Hall, Bobbing.

Enquiries regarding the Domestic Help Service may be made at the District Office, Sutton House, London Road, Sittingbourne.

2. Hospitals and Nursing Homes

(i) Hospitals

There are two Hospitals in the Urban District, as follows:-

(a) Memorial Hospital, Bell Road, Sittingbourne (Tel.No: Sitt.2019)

The Visiting Hours at this Hospital are -

Sunday	-	2.30 p.m. until 3.30 p.m.
Monday	-	7.30 p.m. until 8 p.m.
Tuesday	-	7.30 p.m. until 8 p.m.
Wednesday	-	2.30 p.m. until 3.30 p.m.
Thursday	-	7.30 p.m. until 8 p.m.
Friday	-	7.30 p.m. until 8 p.m.
Saturday	-	2.30 p.m. until 3.30 p.m.

(b) Milton Hospital, North Street, Milton Regis (Tel.No: Sitt.3168)

This Hospital has a Residential Section for Aged People, and Hospital facilities for the Infirm and Chronic Sick.

(c) Cases of Infectious Disease, including patients suffering from Tuberculosis, are admitted for treatment at Keycol Hospital, Keycol Hill, Key Street, Nr. Sittingbourne (Tel.No: Newington 222), which is situated on the main London Road, just outside the Urban District boundary. At this Hospital there is also a Chest Clinic (Tel.No: Newington 387) at which Out-Patients suffering from Tuberculosis and other associated Chest complaints attend for X-Ray and for periodic examinations by the Consultant Chest Physician.

(ii) Nursing Homes

There is one Nursing Home in the Urban District. This is the Lynton Nursing Home which is situate at 80, Park Road, Sittingbourne (Tel.No: Sitt.2629) and is under the personal direction of the Principal, Miss M.K. Masters, S.C.M.

This Nursing Home is for Old People, for whom 4 beds are allowed and provided.

3. School Health Services

The Principal School Medical Officer (Dr. A. Elliott) has once again kindly provided the following summary of the return for the year 1962 for the Area comprising the Boroughs of Faversham and Queenborough, the Urban Districts of Sheerness and Sittingbourne and Milton Regis, and the Rural Districts of Sheppey and Swale.

(a) Routine School Medical Inspections

Number of Pupils Inspected	5,631
Physical Condition of Pupils Inspected:-	
Satisfactory	5,629
Unsatisfactory	2

(b) Special Inspections

Number of Pupils Inspected	217
Number of Pupils Re-Inspected	2,511
Number of Pupils found to require treatment ...	915

(c) Treatment of Pupils

(i) Minor Ailments

Skin Diseases	-
Eye Defects	-
Ear Defects	-
Minor Injuries, Bruises, Sores etc.	15

(ii) Defective Vision and Squint

Errors of Refraction (including Squint) ...	1,061
Other Defects or Diseases of the Eyes ...	-
Number of Pupils for whom Spectacles were prescribed	529

(d) Dental Inspection and Treatment

Number Inspected by Dental Officers	4,238
Number found requiring treatment	2,705
Number actually treated	1,126
Number of attendances for treatment	6,462

(e) Infestation with Vermin

Number of Examinations of Pupils in Schools by the School Nurses or other Authorised persons ...	8,308
Number of Individual Pupils found to be infested	68
Number of Individual Pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(2), Education Act, 1944)	18

4. National Assistance Act, 1948 (Section 47)
National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951

During the Year, the Department was called upon to deal with 4 cases of aged persons living alone.

Upon investigation it was found that the condition of 3 of the cases was satisfactory and it was unnecessary for any action to be taken. In the remaining case, however, an elderly Widow living alone, her circumstances were such that on 16th January, 1962, it was found necessary for action to be taken and a Magistrate's Order was obtained under the Act for her compulsory removal to suitable Hospital accommodation.

5. Old People's Welfare

I am very grateful for the following information, which has kindly been given by Councillor Mrs. J. Noble, on the Welfare of Old People in this Urban District.

" We can now survey the work of our eleventh year in caring for the Old People in the District. It has been a year of consolidation in our usual services to the elderly, sick, and infirm.

The Chiropody Service still grows, there have been 629 treatments given during the year, which is an increase of 26 on last year's figures. All these have been subsidized and in some cases free.

The Night Sitting Service is still fulfilling a useful and necessary purpose. Proving a great help and comfort to Old People who are ill, and giving relief to tired relatives or kind neighbours. Two hundred nights were covered during the year.

A Meals-on-Wheels Service was started in March, 1963, under the supervision of the Women's Voluntary Service, with a subsidy from the Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District Council for each meal. This Service is greatly appreciated by the House-bound and Elderly People of the District.

The need was definitely established and about 55 meals per week are taken round by our voluntary helpers. We owe our sincere thanks to these helpers, especially when one recalls the severe weather we experienced. They continued to deliver the meals, sometimes entailing walking a distance through snow. Our thanks are also due to Messrs Bowaters, Kemsley and Shell Research Company, for their co-operation in preparing meals at a charge so reasonable.

Our Visiting Service continues to thrive and expand under the capable organisation of Mrs Newman and Members of her Craigmore Social Club, who offered their services to the Old People's Welfare Committee. We now have 93 Visitors as compared with 75 in the previous year, which we then considered a record number. This is very gratifying as it allows more frequent visiting, which alleviates loneliness and comforts the sick. It was particularly appreciated during the severe weather, when our visitors were able to help the more infirm with shopping and many little domestic duties. Two hundred and sixty dozen eggs were delivered at Easter to our old folk and 426 elderly and needy received money for coal at Christmas. Five hundred and ten Birthday and Christmas Cards were sent during the year. This shows the Visiting Service is playing an important part in our Old People's Welfare Organisation, as there is now a total number of 565 Old People on the register.

In June, the President and Members of Rotary took a number of house-bound Old People for an outing which was much enjoyed. Each person was collected by car and returned to their home afterwards. I would like the sincere thanks recorded of my Committee and myself.

The two Old People's Clubs in the District continue to be very well supported and give much pleasure to a great many deserving aged People.

The Old People's Welfare Committee was formed in 1952 and we can say we have travelled a long way in the intervening years, but today there is just as much to be done and we look forward with intelligent concern, to try and get a deeper understanding of the needs of Old People in a modern society. "

SECTION V

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. Water Supply

(a) The whole of the Urban District has, since the 1st April, 1956, been supplied from the Council's Undertaking. The supply has, during the Year under review, been adequate both in quality and quantity.

(b) Nineteen samples of water were submitted for bacteriological examination and 1 sample was submitted for chemical examination. All the samples were found to be satisfactory.

(c) All the dwellings (7,786) within the Urban District are supplied from public water mains.

2. Drainage and Sewerage

(a) During the Year extensions of the Council's sewerage system were carried out to serve new housing development within the area.

(b) The final effluent from the disposal works is consistently unsatisfactory. The plant is overloaded and until extensions are completed the effluent will continue to be unsatisfactory.

The extension and improvement scheme approved by the Council has been the subject of technical examination by Officers of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and it seems likely that a start will be made on the work within a reasonable time.

(c) Routine treatment against rodents in the sewerage system was again carried out. Warfarin was used and from the results obtained the incidence of infestation would appear to be low.

3. Scavenging

(a) The administration of the Council's refuse collection and disposal service is under the control of the Engineer and Surveyor.

(b) Disposal continues to be by tipping at the Church Marsh Refuse Tip. The life of this Tip is now limited and steps are being taken by the Council to secure another tipping site. When the new site comes into use it is recommended that full control tipping methods are employed.

4. School Sanitation

(a) The sanitary facilities provided are maintained in a satisfactory manner.

(b) The standard of hygiene in the School Kitchens is of a high standard as evidenced not only by inspection but also by the absence of any incident associated with food prepared and supplied from the Kitchens.

5. Public Conveniences

The conveniences provided were generally maintained in a clean and satisfactory manner.

There is still a persistent minority who appear to get some sort of satisfaction by causing wilful damage at the various conveniences at the expense of the majority who on occasion are deprived of satisfactory facilities because of their action. The wilful damage caused unnecessarily adds to the cost of maintaining this essential service.

6. Public Swimming Baths

(a) Six samples of the bath water were submitted for bacteriological examination. The results indicated a high standard of quality of the swimming bath water. The standards of general cleanliness reflect a well managed pool.

(b) The total number of bathers using the pool during the Year was 57,145, as compared with 65,289 in 1961.

7. Mortuary Accommodation

The mortuary facilities provided by the Council were used during the Year for the accommodation of 31 bodies.

The arrangements again proved to be satisfactory.

8. Service of Notices requiring the execution of works or the Abatement of Nuisances

(a) Informal Notices served	-	110
(b) Statutory Notices served	-	35
(c) Informal Notices complied with	-	116
(d) Statutory Notices complied with	-	50
(e) Informal Notices outstanding	-	117
(f) Statutory Notices outstanding	-	150
(g) Notices dealt with in default of compliance with Statutory Notices	-	4

9. Visits made by the Public Health Inspectors

The number of visits paid by the Public Health Inspectors during the year is shown in Appendix "D".

10. Complaints

During the year, a total of 98 complaints were received from tenants of non-Council Houses and 10 from tenants of Council Houses, in connection with alleged unsatisfactory conditions.

These complaints were investigated and appropriate action was taken to remedy the conditions found.

SECTION VI

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. Milk Supply

(a) The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960

Under the provisions of the above-named Regulations, this Authority is no longer responsible for the issue of licences for the sale of designated Milks. This duty has now been placed on the Kent County Council. Prior to the operation of these Regulations, licences had to be renewed annually, but now a licence is valid for five years from the date of issue.

This Authority is, however, still responsible for registering all Retailers within the Urban District as Distributors of Milk.

69 Milk Distributors are registered under the above Regulations.

(b) Examination of Milk Supplies

(i) 73 samples of Milk were submitted for bacteriological or other prescribed examination to the Public Health Laboratory, Maidstone. The bulk of the supply is in the hands of two or three main suppliers and it seems unnecessary to duplicate samples from different purveyors obtaining their supplies from the same source.

(ii) The following Table shows details of the results obtained:-

TABLE XIII

Designation	Number of Samples	Result	
		Satisfactory	Un-satisfactory
Pasteurised	50 (43)*	48 (39)*	2 (4)*
Sterilised	13 (15)	13 (15)	- (-)
Raw - Tuberculin Tested ...	10 (8)	10 (8)	- (-)
Totals	73 (66)	71 (62)	2 (4)

(iii) The 2 samples of Pasteurised Milk which were unsatisfactory, failed the methylene blue reductase test.

Footnote:- *Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

2. Meat

(i) Two private slaughterhouses were licensed for the use of Butchers in the Town, and 190 visits were paid to these slaughterhouses during the Year.

The number of animals presented for slaughter was 3,008 as compared with 2,657 in the previous Year and 2,325 in 1960.

(ii) The small amount of meat condemned in the slaughterhouses (1,449 lbs) was dyed green and disposed of under guarantee to a firm of bi-product manufacturers.

The Department's transport collects foodstuffs condemned in Food Shops and this is disposed of under suitable safeguards at the Council's tip.

(iii) The licences for the 2 slaughterhouses operating in the Town expired on the 30th September, 1962.

In the case of each slaughterhouse the necessary works required to bring them to the required standard had not been carried out and slaughtering ceased. Subsequently on 27th February, 1963, a licence was issued in respect of one of the premises and in the other case work started on improvement of the premises and is not yet complete.

(iv) Table XIV shows the details of the animals slaughtered and inspected together with the numbers affected with disease.

The Table is in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 17/55, dated 23rd November, 1955, so as to include horses slaughtered for human consumption among the animals, and cysticercosis among the diseases.

TABLE XIV

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses	Total
Number Killed ... (if known)	362	10	3	1452	1181	-	3008
Number Inspected	362	10	3	1452	1181	-	3008
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci							
Whole carcases condemned ...	-	-	-	5	2	-	7
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	25	-	-	37	228	-	290
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	6.9	-	-	2.8	19.4	-	(6.2)* 9.8
Tuberculosis Only							
Whole carcases condemned ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	(0.1)* -
Cysticercosis							
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Footnote:- *Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

3. The Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957

Routine inspections were carried out during the Year.

One new licence was issued during the Year.

4. Other Foodstuffs Examined

(i) The details of foodstuffs of all types condemned during the Year are shown in Appendix "C".

(ii) 6 complaints relating to the presence of foreign bodies, or other contamination, in food were made during the Year.

The foods involved in the complaints were in 1 case Milk; in 1 case Bread; in 1 case Sausages; in 1 case Bacon; in 1 case Sweets and in 1 case Ice Cream.

The foreign bodies or other contamination complained of were -

(a) Water in Milk.

(b) Extraneous matter in Bread.

(c) Sour condition of Sausages.

(d) Unsound condition of Bacon.

(e) Piece of Metal in Sweet.

(f) Foreign matter in Ice Cream.

All the complaints were investigated and after taking into consideration all the circumstances of each case, the Vendors were cautioned.

5. Shellfish

No case of illness attributable to Shellfish was notified during the Year.

6. Fish Frying

(i) 9 fish frying establishments are in operation in the Urban District.

(ii) 19 visits of inspection were made during the Year.

(iii) The standard of hygiene continues to be satisfactory.

7. Ice Cream

(i) The numbers of premises registered for the manufacture, storage or sale of Ice Cream are:-

Sale and Storage of Ice Cream	94 (95)*
Storage of Ice Cream	3 (3)
Manufacture of Ice Cream	1 (2)

(ii) 19 samples of Ice Cream were submitted for examination by the Provisional Modified Methylene Blue Reductase Test.

The results of the samples examined were as follows:-

	1962	1961
Grade I	17 (89.4%)	15 (71.4%)
Grade II	2 (10.5%)	6 (28.5%)
Grade III	- (-)	- (-)
Grade IV	- (-)	- (-)

(iii) The majority of Ice Cream sold in the Urban District is produced by National Manufacturers and invariably is sold pre-packed. No difficulty has been experienced in the supervision of this Trade during the Year.

8. Bakehouses

(i) 2 bakehouses are registered and in operation in the Area.

(ii) 11 visits of inspection were made during the Year.

9. Restaurant Kitchens

(i) The number of restaurant kitchens (including Works Canteens and School Kitchens) in the Area is - 32.

(ii) The hygienic standards attained on the whole were satisfactory.

10. Public Houses

(i) The number of Public Houses in the Area is - 46.

A newly constructed Public House was opened in November, 1962.

(ii) The premises have been conducted in a satisfactory manner.

11. Food Preparing Premises

(i) 19 premises are registered for the manufacture of sausage and preserved foods.

(ii) The premises have generally been maintained in a satisfactory manner.

(iii) During the Year complaints were received concerning food odours which pervaded areas of the Town during the manufacture of certain food products. The firm in question is about to complete the modernisation of their works and steps are being taken in the scheme to deal with this problem.

12. General Hygiene in Food Premises

(a) The Year saw the opening of two supermarkets in the Town built in accordance with current practice. In addition, there was a decided trend towards modernisation in the smaller food premises.

It should never be forgotten by food handlers that modern premises are of no avail if the food handler does not observe a high standard of personal hygiene. In point of fact, in the absence of proper standards of hygiene by the food handler, they can be somewhat of a snare and a delusion.

(b) The relationship between food traders and the Officers of the Department is good and this position can only react to the benefit of all.

13. Details of Inspection

These details are shown in Appendix "D".

14. The Number and Type of Food Premises in the Area

These details are shown in Appendix "F".

15. Samples taken by the Food and Drugs Authority

Mr. S. Strugnell, Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures Department, County Hall, Maidstone, has again very kindly supplied me with details of samples of food taken by the County Sampling Officers in the Urban District of Sittingbourne and Milton during 1962, under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

This information is detailed overleaf.

Article	No. of Samples
Batter Mix	1
Bitter Beer	1
Blackberries in Syrup	1
Blancmange Powder	1
Bloater Fish Paste	1
Blood Mixture	1
Cochineal	1
Cream Cheese Spread	1
Cream of Chicken Soup	1
Curried Beans with Sultanas ...	1
Dairy Ice Cream	1
Empire Butter	1
Empire Cheddar Cheese	1
Fruit Salad in Syrup	1
Gee's Linctus	1
Gin	3
Green Beans	1
Home Made Candy	1
Influenza Mixture	1
Instant Whip Blackcurrant Flavour.	1
Lemon Flavour	1
Linctus of Pholcodine	1
Manderine Oranges	1
Margarine	1
Mentholated Balsam	1
Mild Beer	1
Total Carried Forward	28

Article	No. of Samples
Total Brought Forward	28
Milk	37
Milk Chocolate Peanuts	1
Mixed Vegetables	1
Mushrooms	1
Nerve Restorative Tonic	1
New Zealand Cheddar Cheese ...	1
Pineapple Slices in Syrup ...	1
Pure American Lard	1
Red Cherries in Syrup	1
Rice Creamola	1
Rissotto	1
Self-Raising Flour	1
Soothing Powders	1
Stewed Steak	1
Strawberries in Heavy Syrup ...	1
Table Jelly Lemon Flavour ...	1
Tea	1
Throaties	1
Tinned Cream	1
Tomato Ketchup	1
Topsy Aspirin	1
Vodka	1
Whisky	1
White Pepper	1
Total	88

Summary

Milk	37
Drugs	9
Spirits	5
Other Samples ...	37
Total	88

All of the above samples were genuine with the exception of the following:-

Sample of:	Analysis:	Action taken:
Pasteurised Milk	Contained detergent wash. 23% added water.	Proceedings were taken against the Sittingbourne Co-operative Society Limited, 123, East Street, Sittingbourne, who were fined £12 plus £5. 10. 10d costs. Total £17. 10. 10d.
Pasteurised Milk	Contained detergent wash. 22% added water.	
Pasteurised Milk	Contained detergent wash. 25% added water.	
Pasteurised Milk	Contained detergent wash. 21% added water.	

In this case the complaint was received by the Public Health Department and upon investigation it was found that the milk in question had been distributed not only within the Urban District but also outside. In the circumstances the matter was referred to the Kent County Council as Food and Drugs Authority and action was taken as shown in the above-mentioned report.

SECTION VII

DISINFECTION, DISINFESTATION AND RODENT CONTROL

1. Disinfection

(i) 19 rooms at 4 premises were disinfected on account of infectious disease during the Year. In addition, the Operating Theatre and ante-rooms and one Ward at a local Hospital were disinfected on account of infectious disease, and examination papers received by a local Examiner from Students in Pakistan were fumigated as a safety precaution during the Smallpox outbreak in this Country.

(ii) All library books found at premises where a case of notifiable disease has occurred have been disinfested by formaldehyde before being returned to circulation.

(iii) Steam disinfection continues to be carried out at the Milton Hospital, by the courtesy of the Medway and Gravesend Hospital Management Committee. Every co-operation and assistance is received from the Administrator of the Hospital and his Staff when any work of this kind is required to be carried out.

2. Disinfestation

(i) The following tables indicate the work carried out during the Year:-

(a) Bed Bugs

	Infestations	
	Premises	Rooms
Council Houses	4 (1)*	8 (1)*
Other Houses	3 (3)	4 (13)
Totals	7 (4)	12 (14)

Footnote:- *Figures in brackets relate to the preceding Year.

(b) Fleas

	Infestations	
	Premises	Rooms
Council Houses	- (2)*	- (10)*
Other Houses	- (3)	- (14)
Other Premises	1 (7)	1 (16)
Totals	1 (12)	1 (40)

(c) Other Insect Pests
(Ants, Beetles and Flies)

Council Houses	13 (20)*	18 (23)*
Other Houses	15 (15)	22 (31)
Other Premises	6 (3)	17 (4)
Totals	34 (38)	57 (58)

(ii) Other disinfestations carried out during the year were as follows:-

(a) The roof space of The Chapel, Bell Road Cemetery, was disinfested on two occasions on account of Flies and Ants.

(b) The outside walls of 12 Private Houses and 8 Council Houses were treated on account of Flies.

(c) The outside walls of 4 Private Houses and 23 Council Houses and the Civil Defence Headquarters were treated on account of Ants.

(d) The outside walls of 1 Private House were treated on account of Slugs.

(e) Treatments against Ants were carried out at the Swimming Baths.

(f) Treatment against Woodworm was carried out in 1 Private Building.

(g) Treatments against Flies were carried out at the Refuse Tip.

(h) Routine treatment of Civil Defence Bedding was carried out on account of Moths.

Footnote:- *Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

(iii) In addition, 20 Wasps' and 6 Bees' Nests were treated and destroyed and the usual anti-mosquito measures were carried out in ponds and other sites.

(iv) The main insecticides used during the Year were 5% D.D.T. in Kerosene and Gammexane.

(v) The number of visits made during the Year by the Department's Operator in connection with disinfection and disinfestation was 423 as compared with 898 visits in 1961.

3. Rodent Control

(i) The Council employ one part-time Rodent Operator.

(ii) Table XV gives details of the work carried out during the Year.

(iii) The number of visits made during the Year was 1,685 (including routine survey visits) as against 1,557 visits in the previous Year.

(iv) In addition to the above, the usual maintenance treatment of the Council's sewerage system was carried out during the Year.

TABLE XV

		Type of Property				
		Local Authority	Dwelling-Houses	Agricultural	All other (including Business Premises)	Total
i. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District		18	7,786	16	727	8,547
ii. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1962, as a result of - (a) notification (b) survey, and (c) otherwise	(a)	11 (10)	175 (230)	5 (12)	26 (41)	217 (293)*
	(b)	4 (4)	138 (176)	6 (1)	12 (20)	160 (201)
	(c)	- (2)	26 (27)	- (1)	3 (40)	29 (70)
iii. Number of properties inspected (under Section ii) found to be infested by rats	Major	1 (5)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	1 (5)
	Minor	10 (5)	168 (175)	6 (8)	14 (30)	198 (218)
iv. Number of properties inspected (under Section ii) found to be infested by mice		4 (6)	20 (33)	- (6)	12 (24)	36 (69)
v. Number of infested properties (under Sections iii and iv) treated by the Local Authority		15 (16)	188 (208)	6 (14)	26 (54)	235 (292)

Footnote:- *Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

SECTION VIII

HOUSING

1. Inspections

The number and character of inspections carried out during the Year in connection with housing is as follows:-

(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected during the year for housing defects	308	(318)*
(b) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations ...	3	(7)
(c) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	11	(31)
(d) Number of houses found defective in some essential particular	110	(147)
(e) Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice	116	(114)
(f) Reinspections of houses	522	(650)
(g) Action under the Statutory Powers during the year:-		
(i) Proceedings under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957	1	(2)
(ii) Proceedings under Public Health Act	35	(61)
(iii) Proceedings under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957	6	(24)

Footnote:- *Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

(iv) Action under Section 42 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

No. of Areas represented as unfit	No. of Dwellings in the Areas	No. of Dwellings demolished during the year
- (4)	- (41)	- (-)*

2. Provision of Houses

The Engineer and Surveyor (Mr. A.W. Lloyd) has kindly supplied the following information in connection with the number of houses built each year since the end of the War:-

TABLE XIV

Year	Council Houses Temporary	Council Houses Permanent	Police Houses	Private Enterprise	War destroyed houses re-built	Total
1946	50	33	-	2	-	85
1947	-	57	-	5	-	62
1948	-	44	-	3	2	49
1949	-	70	-	3	8	81
1950	-	72	-	7	8	87
1951	-	82	-	8	4	94
1952	-	140	2	2	-	144
1953	-	118	-	3	-	121
1954	-	200	11	34	-	245
1955	-	94	6	13	-	113
1956	-	82	-	52	-	134
1957	-	72	-	128	-	200
1958	-	57	1	98	-	156
1959	-	78	-	80	-	158
1960	-	72	-	118	-	190
1961	-	43	-	128	-	171
1962	-	51	-	191	-	242
Totals	50	1,365	20	875	22	2,332

Footnote:- *Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

3. Repair and Maintenance of Houses

(a) It has been difficult to get repairs carried out in houses as a result of notices served. The difficulty has arisen not so much in the reluctance of Owners to place an order with their builder but apparently because of the builder being unable to carry out the necessary works within a reasonable time. This is probably due to the heavy demands on the building trade in the Town. Even in the case of works carried out in default some difficulty has been found in getting a builder willing to quote and after acceptance of the price undue delays have been experienced before the work has been started and completed.

Once again I would stress the considerable improvement to houses carried out by Owner/Occupiers.

(b) Rent Act, 1957

During the Year, 1 application (Form 'I') was received in connection with a Certificate of Disrepair. This makes a total of 63 applications received since the Act came into force on 6th July, 1957.

The following information details the position regarding these applications, together with the action taken:-

1. Total number of applications for Certificates of Disrepair ...	63
2. Total number of notices (Form 'J') issued by Local Authority to Landlord of Proposal to issue a Certificate of Disrepair ...	59
3. Total number of decisions by Local Authority not to issue Certificates of Disrepair	6
4. Total number of Undertakings (Form'K') given by Landlord to remedy defects proposed to be included in Certificate of Disrepair	40
5. Undertakings (Forms 'K') not given by Landlord but defects remedied in accordance with requirements of Forms 'J' issued by Local Authority	6
6. Total number of Certificates of Disrepair (Forms 'L') issued	14
7. Applications by Landlords to Local Authority for Cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair	3
8. Total number of Notices (Forms 'RC2') issued by Local Authority to Landlord of Cancellation of Certificate of Disrepair ...	3

It would appear that tenants of houses either have forgotten their rights under the Act or are loathe to avail themselves of the procedure available to them.

(c) Discretionary Improvement Grants -
Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958
(as amended by the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 and Housing Act, 1961)

During the Year, 24 applications for Grants in connection with Discretionary Improvement Schemes, were submitted to the Council. These were all approved.

The total cost of the works involved in these approved applications, amounted to £11,429 and the total of the Grants allowed was £5,702.

There were 27 Completion Certificates issued during the Year and 10 of these were in respect of applications received during 1961. In addition, 2 applications received in 1962 were cancelled at the Applicants' request.

The Improvement Schemes were, as in previous Years, mainly concerned with the provision of bathrooms, internal water closets and hot water systems and consequential improvements to kitchens.

(d) Standard Improvement Grants -
House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959
(as amended by the Housing Act, 1961)

During the Year, 15 applications for Grants in connection with Standard Improvement Schemes, were submitted to the Council. All of these were approved.

There were 11 Completion Certificates issued during the Year and 3 of these were in respect of applications received and approved during 1961.

Since the Act came into force, the Council has received and approved 45 applications. Thirty-five of these were completed by 31st December, 1962. In addition, 2 applications received in 1961/62 were cancelled at the applicants' request.

The total cost of the works involved in the 35 completed applications amounted to £5,395 and the total of the Grants allowed was £2,560.

The improvements required under the applications were for the provision of hot water systems, baths, wash-hand basins, internal water closets and foodstores.

(e) Although the Council are anxious to receive and accept applications for the improvement of houses, in spite of the considerable publicity, both national and local, which has been given to the grants which are available and having regard to the time such grants have been available, it is astounding the number of occasions it is found that Owners of dwellings know absolutely nothing about them. This position is not confined to our locality but is, I believe, general throughout the Country.

(f) Details in connection with Improvement Grants, both Discretionary and Standard, are shown in Tables XVII and XVIII.

(g) Progress of Five-Year's Slum Clearance Programme

An Inquiry in connection with the final stage of the Council's first five year's clearance programme was held on the 9th January, 1962. Confirmation of the Order was given by the Minister on 11th July, 1962. The demolition of the houses in the confirmed area has brought to an end the First Five-Year's Programme phase. Appendix "H" gives details of the work carried out in the past five years.

In March, 1962 a Joint Report of the Medical Officer of Health and Chief Public Health Inspector on "Housing and Slum Clearance Progress within the Urban District" was presented to the Council. It was our firm belief that the Council wished to maintain the impetus already gained and continue with the major task of improving the housing conditions of the people. The Council accepted the suggestions contained in the Report and a Second Five-Year's Clearance Programme was approved. A copy of the Report is given in Appendix "I".

(h) Rehousing - Removal Expenses

In connection with the Council's Slum Clearance Programme, 5 persons upon being rehoused applied for their removal expenses to be paid by the Council. Under the authority of Council Minute No.507(5) dated October, 1959, the expenses in all these cases were met by the Council.

TABLE XVII

DISCRETIONARY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

YEAR	Number of Improvement Schemes Submitted and Approved	Number of Completion Certificates Issued	Number of Approved Schemes Cancelled at Applicants' Request	Total Cost of Approved Applications	Total Amount of Grant
				£	£
1955	25	8	2	4,888	2,436
1956	19	24	2	5,856	2,919
1957	29	24	-	10,118	4,947
1958	15	21	-	5,326	2,654
1959	32	24	-	13,128	6,563
1960	40	29	2	18,106	9,035
1961	24	30	1	13,511	6,745
1962	24	27	2	11,429	5,702
TOTALS	208	187	9	82,362	41,001

TABLE XVIII

STANDARD IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Year	Number of Improvement Schemes Submitted and Approved	Number of Completion Certificates Issued	Number of Approved Schemes Cancelled at Applicants' Request
1959	4	2	-
1960	16	12	-
1961	10	10	-
1962	15	11	2
TOTALS	45	35	2

4. Rehousing

The Housing Officer (Mr. B. King) has again very kindly supplied the following figures regarding rehousing in the Urban District.

(i) During the Year, it was found possible to provide housing accommodation for 163 families, as follows:-

(a) 2 families rehoused in existing temporary houses (1) *
(b) 36 families rehoused in pre-war Council houses (33)
(c) 119 families rehoused in post-war Council houses (121)
(d) 6 families rehoused in privately owned houses by arrangement with Owners' consent (5)

(ii) In addition to the above-mentioned families rehoused by the Council, it is known that 2 applicants were rehoused by other Authorities and 32 others found accommodation privately. These figures compare with 8 and 32 respectively in 1961; 5 and 32 respectively in 1960 and 1 and 39 respectively in 1959.

5. Housing Applications

The Housing Officer has also very kindly supplied the following information regarding Housing Applications.

(a) The following Table shows the details of the number of applicants in the various categories on the Council's Housing List at 31st December, 1962:-

TABLE XIX

1. Number of Applicants on 'Live List' ...	481 (436) *
2. Number of 'Late Applications'	126 (111)
Total Number of Applicants	607 (547)

Footnote:- * Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

(b) Table XX shows the various classes into which the applicants on the 'Live List' fall:-

TABLE XX

		No.	%
ϕ 1.	Engaged Couples	15	3.1
2.	Applicants who are tenants of houses within the Urban District	262	54.4
3.	Applicants living in rooms as sub-tenants or lodgers within the Urban District ...	112	23.2
4.	Old Persons applying for Old Persons' Dwellings	92	19.1
	Total	481	

6. Gypsies and other Van Dwellers

During the Year, there was an influx of Van Dwellers into the Urban District, many coming from outside Kent. They mainly went onto land which had been cleared under the Council's Slum Clearance Programme and difficulty was experienced in maintaining tolerable hygienic standards.

In March, 1962 the Chief Public Health Inspector presented a Report to the Council (Appendix "J") which set out the views of the Department as to the way this problem should be dealt with.

7. National Assistance Act, 1948 (Section 50)
National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951

The Department was called upon to deal with 3 cases during the Year.

These 3 cases were all Males, aged 82, 64 and 49 years respectively.

The relations of these cases were either unwilling or unable to arrange for the funerals and the necessary arrangements for interment were, therefore, carried out by the Department under the authority of the above-named Act and Section.

Death Grants were obtained in 2 of the cases.

Footnote:- ϕ This figure is in respect of existing applications. There are no single applications as these were cancelled under Council Minute No.1176/2/58, and no further applications were accepted from engaged couples as from March, 1958 under Council Minute No.1310/3/58.

8. Atmospheric Pollution

During the Year, a complaint was made concerning "the smell which frequently pervades Sittingbourne".

After consideration of the complaint the Council instructed that a Report be submitted setting out the local sources of pollution; information about what had been done with regard to these sources; and upon atmospheric pollution generally.

As a result of this instruction the Chief Public Health Inspector had consultations with D.S.I.R., H.M. Alkali Inspector and local industrial interests. Considerable work was carried out in visiting industrial plants, carrying out observations and in the assessment of the pollution problem generally. The position was fully set out in the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector submitted in February, 1963 which is given in Appendix "K".

After considerable discussion by the Council it was resolved -

"(a) That measuring instruments be not purchased.

(b) That the Chief Public Health Inspector take steps to ensure that the products of combustion from cement stacks at Kurston are discharged at a high level. "

It is evident that there are atmospheric pollution problems in the Town and that efforts should continue to reduce the level of pollution in the air we all must breathe.

APPENDIX "A"

RAINFALL

Recorded at Highsted Waterworks

Month	Rainfall (inches) 1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
January	1.69	3.07	2.09	2.59	3.34	2.80
February	3.53	2.29	0.02	1.81	2.40	0.47
March	0.79	1.37	1.70	1.72	0.07	2.21
April	0.19	1.68	3.07	0.58	1.91	1.80
May	1.66	2.05	1.07	2.30	0.49	1.65
June	1.97	4.36	1.15	1.55	1.64	0.24
July	3.91	1.09	2.07	2.56	1.08	1.44
August	2.51	3.44	1.03	4.05	0.79	1.98
September	2.35	3.34	0.25	2.66	2.01	2.33
October	1.01	3.66	2.40	4.99	3.73	1.64
November	2.02	1.64	4.39	5.52	2.40	2.91
December	2.54	3.27	5.21	3.31	3.72	2.69
Total Rainfall	24.17	31.26	24.45	33.64	23.58	22.16

APPENDIX "B"

TEMPERATURES

Month	Maximum 1959	1960	1961	1962	Minimum 1959	1960	1961	1962
January ...	51°	54°	51°	56°	19°	20°	24°	20°
February ...	61°	62°	59°	54°	26°	24°	30°	25°
March ...	62°	60°	69°	60°	30°	27°	29°	20°
April ...	75°	70°	72°	72°	35°	32°	34°	31°
May ...	81°	79°	75°	72°	33°	36°	33°	32°
June ...	86°	86°	84°	79°	42°	43°	42°	33°
July ...	93°	78°	90°	80°	44°	42°	45°	42°
August ...	86°	80°	87°	80°	44°	44°	46°	42°
September ...	82°	75°	81°	78°	40°	40°	44°	36°
October ...	80°	68°	69°	74°	33°	30°	33°	30°
November ...	59°	61°	62°	59°	25°	30°	29°	24°
December ...	54°	56°	57°	54°	29°	28°	18°	16°

APPENDIX "C"

DETAILS OF FOODSTUFFS OF ALL TYPES CONDEMNED DURING 1962

	Lbs.	Lbs.
(a) Condemned at Slaughterhouses:-		
5 Carcases of Sheep - Pathological Emaciation ...	137	
Carcase of a Pig - Sapraemia	120	
Carcase of a Pig - Toxaemia	84	
Edible Offal	1,108	1,449
(b) Condemned in Shops:-		
Meat	522	
Miscellaneous Foodstuffs (including canned Milk, Meat, Fruit, Vegetables, Fish, Jam, etc.) ...	1,512¼	2,034¼
(c) Condemned in Warehouse:-		
Tomato Puree (Tinned)		23,980
Total Lbs		27,463¼

Total - 12 Tons 5 Cwts 0 Qrs 23¼ Lbs.

(11 Tons 13 Cwts 1 Qr 10½ Lbs.)*

Footnote:- *Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

APPENDIX "D"

DETAILS OF INSPECTION

	Inspections	
Inspection of Houses		
No. of Houses inspected (Public Health and Housing Acts) First Inspections - not visits	308	
No. of Houses reinspected	522	
No. of Houses inspected and recorded (S.3 Housing Act, 1958)	3	
No. of Houses inspected for Rent Act, 1957	3	836
Premises		
Accumulations	19	
Butchers	42	
Cinemas and Amusement Places	2	
Dairies and Milkshops	6	
Food Preparing Premises	17	
Fresh Fish Shops	15	
Fried Fish and Chip Shops	22	
Fruit and Vegetable Shops	20	
Food Vehicles	5	
Ice Cream Premises	19	
Mortuary	12	
Outworkers	2	
Pets Shops	1	
Piggeries	17	
Premises to examine Foodstuffs	44	
Provision Shops	71	
Public Conveniences	19	
Public Houses	17	
Restaurant and Restaurant Kitchens	35	
Sanitary Accommodation on Agricultural Land	6	
Schools	26	
Shops (under Shops Act)	14	
Shops (reinspections)	46	
Slaughterhouses	190	
Smoke Observations	19	
Stables	1	
Swimming Baths	3	
Systematic Inspection of District	11	
Tents, Vans and Sheds etc	38	
Tips	10	
Water Courses	6	
Atmospheric pollution for Special Report purposes	112	867
Total c/f		1703

		Inspections
Total b/f		1703
Rat Infestation (not recorded elsewhere)		
Houses Inspected (first inspections)	1	
Houses Inspected (reinspections)	5	
Other Premises (first inspections)	3	
Other Premises (reinspections)	3	12
Enquiries or Visits		
Contractors or Owners interviewed	122	
Contacts of Infectious Diseases	38	
Notifiable Diseases	18	
Miscellaneous	98	
Office Interviews	350	
Port Visits	13	
Lectures	3	
Civil Defence - Welfare	10	
Housing Tenancies	163	
Houses Let in Lodgings	17	
Housing Circumstances	4	
Housing Removals - Old Age Pensioners	5	
National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 50	3	
National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47	4	
Improvement Grants	112	960
Food and Drugs and Other Sampling		
Samples of Ice Cream	19	
Samples of Swimming Bath Water	6	
Samples of Water obtained - Bacteriological Examination	19	
Samples of Water obtained - Chemical	1	
Samples of Milk obtained - Bacteriological Examination	73	
Miscellaneous Bacteriological Specimens	3	121
Factories		
Factories with Mechanical Power - Bakehouses	11	
- Miscellaneous	32	
Factories without Mechanical Power - Bakehouses	-	
- Miscellaneous	7	50
Total		2846
		(3010) *

Footnote:- * Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

APPENDIX "E"

NUISANCES AND DEFECTS REMEDIED DURING 1962

Houses		Totals
Ashbins provided		27
Brickwork and walls repaired		19
Chimneys repaired		3
Ceilings repaired		24
Damp-proof courses inserted or dampness abated		2
Doors and frames repaired		13
Floors renewed or repaired		19
Grates or Ovens repaired or renewed		7
Inside plastering repaired		20
Miscellaneous repairs and nuisances abated		8
Outside plastering repaired		6
Roofs renewed or repaired		66
Rainwater pipes or gutters renewed or repaired		16
Washing coppers provided or repaired		3
Water taps or pipes repaired		7
Window cords renewed		31
Window sashes or frames renewed or repaired		36
Yard paving relaid or repaired		1
Hot water systems provided		1
Staircases repaired		1
Walls and ceilings cleansed and redecorated	1	311
Drainage		
Drains tested, smoke	8	
Drains relaid	8	
Drains repaired	8	
Drains cleansed	15	
Inspection or Interception chambers provided	2	
Inspection or Interception chambers repaired	5	
Soil pipes or ventilating shafts fixed or repaired	5	
Sinks provided	2	
Sinks trapped or waste pipes repaired	3	
Gullies fixed	2	
New drains constructed	1	59
Total c/f		370

Total b/f		370
Water Closets		
Flushing apparatus provided	4	
Flushing apparatus repaired	19	
Miscellaneous repairs	26	
New Pans and traps fixed	17	
Cleansed	2	68
Cesspools and Septic Tanks		
Abolished and House connected to sewer	1	
Emptied	2	3
Earth and Pail Closets		
French latrines provided for Hop-Pickers		3
Shops Act		
Lighting provided or improved	1	
Sanitary conveniences repaired	2	3
Food Shops, Kitchens, and Premises Used for Preparation or Manufacture of Preserved Foods		
Ashbins provided	3	
Cleanliness improved	1	
Other repairs	1	
Washing-up sinks fixed	2	
Water supply provided (hot)	1	8
Total		455
		(476)*

Footnote:- *Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year.

APPENDIX "F"

LIST SHOWING NUMBER AND TYPE OF FOOD SHOPS IN THE AREA

Type	Number
1. Meat Shops (including Shops carrying out the preparation and/or manufacture of preserved foods)	19
2. Restaurants and Dining Room Kitchens (including Works' Canteens and School Kitchens)	32
3. Food Shops	72
4. Factories handling Food	18
5. Fried Fish Shops	9
6. Ice Cream Retailers	94
7. Milk - Distributors	69
- Dairies	1
8. Public Houses	46

APPENDIX "G"

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937

PART I OF THE ACT

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	9	7	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	93	43	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	4	4	-	-
Total ...	106	54	-	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	Number of Cases in which defects were found				Number of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of Floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for Sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	-	-	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(SECTIONS 110 and 111)

	Section 110			Section 111		
Nature of work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing Apparel - Making etc.	2	-	-	-	-	-
All Others	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	2	-	-	-	-	-

APPENDIX "H"

Summary of Houses dealt with in Slum Clearance Programmes during the Period from 1945 to 1962 (inclusive)

Year or Period	Houses dealt with in Clearance Areas.	Individual Houses dealt with by Undertakings, Closing Orders, or Demolition Orders.	Total Number of Houses Dealt with.	Number of Houses Demolished.
1945 - 1952	5	15	20	20
1953 - 1957	96	138	234	169
1958	-	30	30	81
1959	33	80	113	101
1960	-	39	39	25
1961	-	22	22	38
1962	41	9	50	66
Totals	175	333	508	500

APPENDIX "I"

Report of Medical Officer of Health and Chief Public Health Inspector on Housing and Slum Clearance progress within the Urban District

In order to place before the Members a picture of the progress which has been made in the field of slum clearance it is, in our view, appropriate that the post-war history of slum clearance in the Urban District should be stated at some length.

During the period of 1945 - 1952 at a time when there was a grave shortage of housing accommodation due to the effects and the aftermath of War, some 20 houses were represented to the Council under the Housing Acts. These representations were accepted by the Council, the families concerned were re-housed and the houses demolished.

By 1952 it was clear to your Officers that these first steps, though useful in themselves, did not begin to deal with the serious housing situation which prevailed in the town and as a result of the Department's concern at the bad housing conditions which were known to exist a joint report of the Medical Officer of Health and Chief Public Health Inspector dealing with Housing and Slum Clearance was submitted to the Council in October, 1952. In that report it was suggested that a planned attack should be made, over a period of eight years, on the eradication of unfit houses. In the light of the circumstances prevailing at that time it was suggested that some 300 houses be dealt with during the period. The proposals as submitted, were approved by the Council and a start was made on the implementation of the agreed programme. As a result, in the period 1953 - 1955 some 57 houses were dealt with.

In 1954 the Housing Repairs and Rents Act was placed on the Statute Book and the Council was required to submit to the Minister of Housing and Local Government, within one year of the passing of the Act, their proposals for dealing with houses within the district, which in their opinion were unfit for human habitation.

To enable the Council to formulate their proposals a joint report of the Medical Officer of Health and Chief Public Health Inspector on "Housing Proposals - Repair and Improvement" was submitted in February, 1955. This report wasfollowed by a further joint report in June, 1955 dealing with the "Clearance of Unfit Houses".

The programme then suggested viz., the clearance of some 419 houses within the following 5 years, was approved by the Council and submitted to the Minister in July, 1955. The Minister approved the Council's proposals and a start was made on the programme which was scheduled for completion in December, 1960.

Progress has continued over the years and in fact some 423 houses have been dealt with by the Department. The programme will be completed when the remaining tenants of the Cross Street/Berry Street/Lorne Place Clearance Area are rehoused within the next few months.

The Minister of Housing and Local Government, in Circular 2/60, reviewed the progress that was being achieved nationally under clearance proposals and suggested that local authorities, when they were approaching the completion of their 5 year's programme, should take stock of their individual progress and take action to submit further proposals within about six months of the completion of their current programme.

Although the effect of the 5 year's programme has been a marked improvement in housing conditions for many families, it has become increasingly clear during the progress of the programme that a further programme would be required to deal with houses which, in our opinion, are unfit and unsatisfactory for habitation.

In considering housing conditions in the town, over a reasonable period, the position of houses has to be considered in terms of what their condition will be in 4, 5 or even 10 years time, if nothing is done to arrest decay and deterioration. Apart from the present or future condition of a house, it is a fact that the majority of the houses which come into consideration are without baths, hot water systems etc. It may well be that future legislation will prescribe a standard of fitness for a house which will require such amenities if the house is to be considered as a fit house. It was pointed out in our joint report of February, 1955 that "unless vigorous steps are implemented at a fairly early date to secure the repair and/or improvement of many houses, it follows that the sum total of houses to be demolished within the 5 years of the new programme or a further programme immediately following the first, will be considerably more than would be the case, if as many suitable houses as possible were repaired and improved."

The effect of the Rent Act, 1957, but above all the increase in owner-occupation, has ensured that areas which even 10 years ago appeared to be well on the way to being the slums of tomorrow, have been rehabilitated and thus become a continuing asset to the community. Unfortunately this process, although marked in certain areas of the town, for a variety of reasons has not been uniform throughout the town and consideration has had to be given to the position of the many houses in the district which, mainly due to inherent defects, are damp and otherwise unfit for habitation.

We understand that it is the Council's intention that slum clearance should continue at its present rate for the next 5 years. A detailed survey of all the houses has not been carried out, but from the accumulated knowledge of housing conditions in the town which is within the Department, we feel that the areas listed in the following statement should form the basis of the Council's slum clearance activities for the next 5 years. The houses, with

the possible exception of those at Murston, are not placed in any order of priority. We feel that this should be avoided as factors may well arise which would upset any order of priority which might be determined at this time.

Schedule of proposed clearance areas

Murston - Church Road, Gas Road	118
Pond Cottage, Canterbury Road	5
119, 121, Canterbury Road	2
Crown Quay Lane	13
South Avenue	4
East Street	7
Cockleshell Walk	25
Spring Street	2
Pembury Street Area (including Station Street)	60
Charlotte Street	3
Shortlands Road	13
High Street, Milton	12
TOTAL	264

(Note:- The balance of the programme, approximately 80 houses, will be made up of individual houses which it is hoped to deal with from time to time as the area programme developes.)

It is not possible at this time to anticipate what legislative changes there will be within the next five years or so which would have the effect of raising the standard of fitness required in an existing house. This much appears to be clear to us, that our advice of February, 1955 is still valid, that unless vigorous steps are taken to maintain and improve existing houses not contained in the programme under discussion during the next few years it will be inevitable that areas of the town will have deteriorated to such an extent as to make yet another programme necessary after the completion of this progromme, in order to secure satisfactory housing for the community.

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12th March, 1962.

APPENDIX "J"

Report of Chief Public Health Inspector on Gypsies and other Van Dwellers.

The Minister of Housing and Local Government in a circular dated 8th February, 1962, has drawn the attention of local authorities to the problems which arise in certain areas in connection with gypsies and other caravan dwellers who have no fixed abode.

The Minister points out that many of the sites which gypsies have been accustomed to using in the past have become closed to them owing to the spread of development and other causes, and it is becoming increasingly difficult for them to find proper sites for their winter quarters or for their permanent settlements. The true gypsies, or romanies, have the right to follow their traditional mode of life, and they have a legitimate need for camping sites. At the same time the romany way of life is changing and many are now more ready to settle down. They need help and encouragement in their attempt to find a settled way of life.

There are also other caravan dwellers who present similar problems. These are usually people who are either self-employed or dependent on casual work, and who for lack of regular sites put their caravans on unauthorised sites on commons, waste land and roadside verges. The Minister points out the difficulties which arise by such use on the grounds of nuisance and unsightliness. Moving people off one unauthorised site and leaving them to find another is no solution, and no answer to the human and social problems involved. These can only be resolved by the provision of proper sites, in which the caravan families can settle down under decent conditions and in reasonable security. This is probably the only effective way of preventing the persistent use of unauthorised sites, continuing trouble, and hardship.

Where a need exists which cannot be met by the use of ordinary licensed sites, the provision of a site by a local authority is probably the only satisfactory solution.

It is suggested that County Councils should review the position generally in consultation with district councils and ascertain the extent of the problem. Where it is found that sites are needed the county council should consider, in consultation with district councils, how the need can best be met. The Minister hopes that no authority will hold back merely because others are not ready to move and he asks every local authority in whose area this problem arises to consider how it can best be tackled.

The Minister believes that this is essentially a problem to be dealt with by the local authorities concerned. He recognises the difficulties and the objections which may arise, but he believes that the problem has to be faced now and, where necessary, positive action taken to see that sites are available on which these families can live in reasonable conditions.

The problems raised by the Minister in his circular have been acute in this district during the past few weeks and, prior to the Minister's circular, it was my intention to report to the Committee on the situation.

During the winter months, when agricultural work is scarce, it has always been the custom for this class of person to attempt to winter on a site near to a populated area. For a number of years past this problem has arisen in the town and the Department has literally waged war on van dwellers and moved and harried them out of the town. Apart from the debatable point, as to whether it is a proper function of the Health Department to act in this way, it has always been clear to me that the action taken in no way dealt with the human and social problems involved and was merely shifting the problem from one site to another - often still within the urban district. This was high-lighted during the week ended 17th February when officers of the Health Department literally harried families from one site after another until in a space of one week they had been pulled off sites four times. Some of the families concerned were of local origin and all appeared to be of the utmost respectability. Their only fault appearing to be that they followed a way of life different from the majority.

The only satisfactory solution appears to be the provision of small sites throughout the county. In this way the problem would begin to be tackled and there would appear to be strong hopes that eventually a permanent solution would be found.

If the Council feel that they could play a part in dealing with the problem, I would suggest that the most which would be required would be a site with hard standing for about 6 vans, water closet and washing accommodation and water supply. An appropriate rent should be charged. In this connection the West Ashford Rural District Council, who have provided a site, charge a rent of 12/-d per week, per caravan, plus 5/-d per week for each lorry. They have found that the rent has been paid promptly and few difficulties have arisen.

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12th March, 1962.

APPENDIX "K"

Report of Chief Public Health Inspector

Atmospheric Pollution - Sittingbourne and Milton Urban District

In accordance with the instructions contained in Minute No.177/7/62 a Report on the position with regard to atmospheric pollution within the Urban District is submitted.

The Report is based upon inspection, discussion and the assessment of the various sources of pollution within the town. Efforts have also been made to try and see whether the smell from the Creek is in fact due solely to the natural evolution of sulphuretted hydrogen or whether in fact the so called smell is the result of the emission of the gases of combustion from industrial and/or domestic chimneys, or whether it is a combination of both. Consideration has also been given to the methods by which the degree of atmospheric pollution in the town can be assessed.

This Report attempts to set out the position having regard to the available information, the absence of instruments for the recording of pollution and the short time which has elapsed during which observations have been taken.

Section 1

It is felt that it would be useful to Members if some general points made in the Report of the Committee on Air Pollution (The Beaver Committee) were recapitulated.

The nature and effects of air pollution

(i) The most serious problem is the pollution which arises from the combustion of fuels (coal, oil and their products).

(ii) The effects are most severe in those urban areas which are liable both to heavy pollution and to natural fog.

(iii) A distinction can be drawn between visible pollution by smoke, grit and dust, and pollution by invisible gases, the most important of which are the oxides of sulphur.

(iv) More than half of all the smoke comes from industrial sources and railways* but for each ton of coal burnt, domestic chimneys produce twice as much smoke as industry and discharge it at a lower level.

(v) Nearly all the grit and dust comes from industrial sources.

Footnote:- *Since the compilation of the 'Beaver Report' the railways in this part of the country have been electrified.

(vi) Sulphur dioxide is discharged wherever coal, coke or oil is burnt, whether in industrial or domestic premises.

Although scientific evidence about the effects of air pollution on human health is incomplete, enough is known to make it abundantly clear that it is injurious to both physical and mental health. It fosters disease and can cause death.

There is a clear association between pollution and the incidence of bronchitis and other respiratory diseases. Statistics show that the death rate from bronchitis in England and Wales is much higher than in other European countries from which reliable figures are available. Not all the excess can necessarily be attributed to air pollution since other factors, for example, climate or housing conditions, play a part, but in general it is the industrial towns liable to heavy pollution that have the highest death rates.

Air pollution is clearly most harmful because of its action on the respiratory system, but it is also damaging because it obscures natural light and thus reduces resistance to infection and retards recovery from illness. The psychological effects of reduced light and sunshine may be no less serious than the physical effects.

Industrial Smoke

All the evidence before the 'Beaver Committee' confirmed the validity of their statement that, with a few exceptions, no industrial chimney need normally emit more than a light haze of smoke if the combustion arrangements are adequate and are properly operated. This applies equally to commercial and other non-industrial premises, and, of course, to domestic chimneys, which, unlike industrial chimneys, seldom in fact produce black smoke.

Emission of dark smoke from even the most efficient boiler and steam-raising plant must be regarded as unavoidable for occasional short periods when fires are being lit, or raked, or during soot-blowing, or in the case of a mechanical breakdown. Also the emission of dark smoke cannot be avoided in those industrial processes in which according to present knowledge the prevention of dark smoke entails special technical difficulties.

Grit and Dust

Grit and dust are emitted from furnaces, whether or not there is visible smoke, and from many other industrial processes. The methods of control are different from those required for the prevention of smoke. Different appliances are needed for the various types of duty and they vary in efficiency and cost. Thus, whereas well-designed mechanical arrestors, are suitable for coarse grits from many types of industrial boiler plants, costly electrostatic precipitators, sometimes preceded by mechanical arrestors, are necessary with pulverised boilers; and for many industrial processes involving fine dusts it is necessary to use

other equipment such as fabric filters. Even so, it is not possible to prevent all emissions of fine dust, and with small plants it would not be realistic to expect 100 per cent collection of grit. The important factors are the weight of the dust discharged, the size of the particles, and whether the chimney is of sufficient height to disperse the residual dust adequately.

Pollution from special processes

The special problems of pollution from the heavy chemical and allied industries and such industries as the manufacture of cement, brick-making (partly) and certain metallurgical operations are governed by the Alkali etc. Works Regulations Act, 1906 as extended by subsequent legislation. The acts are administered by the Alkali Inspectorate of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Their effect is that the best practicable means must be used to render emission inoffensive and harmless. The expression 'the best practicable means' covers both the right type of plant and its use and maintenance.

Cement Works

There have been widespread complaints about the emission of dust from cement works which have been registered under the Alkali etc. Act since 1935.

The dust arrestment problem at cement works is more difficult than that at power stations by reason of the fact that the kiln gases contain some 40 per cent of water vapour. There are therefore hazards of condensation on precipitators with a consequent liability to corrosion and electrical failure.

Even with precipitators working at full efficiency it is problematical whether dust emissions from cement manufacture can be kept below a rate equivalent to 0.5% of the cement made.

Sulphur Pollution

One of the most deleterious products of the combustion of fuels is sulphur, present in the form of its oxides, mainly sulphur dioxide. Sulphur dioxide is discharged into the atmosphere with the chimney gases whenever fuel in the form of coal, coke, fuel oil or unpurified gases is burnt. The degree of efficiency of combustion does not effect the quantity of sulphur dioxide evolved. A relatively small proportion of the sulphur contained in solid fuels is retained in the ashes, but the bulk goes into the atmosphere. Coal and coke commonly contain between 1 and 2 % of sulphur, and the position is likely to get worse since the average sulphur content of coals mined in Britain is steadily rising. Fuel oil frequently contains between 3 and 4% of sulphur.

Every industrial and domestic installation which burns fuel other than town gas, purified coke oven gas or coke in blast furnaces, sends into the atmosphere its quota, great or small, of this invisible but harmful gas.

The initial step in reducing the pollution of the atmosphere by sulphur oxides is to remove as much sulphur as possible at the pits by cleaning the coal. The National Coal Board now cleans much of the coal. There is, however, a limit to what can be done in this way and it must be concluded that, whilst it is important to reduce the sulphur content of coal as much as possible by cleaning before combustion or carbonization, in the present state of our knowledge a large proportion of the sulphur cannot be removed by these means. It is technically possible to remove most of the sulphur from fuel oil, but the cost is too great at present for the oil industry to undertake this as a normal commercial operation.

One method of removing oxides of sulphur from flue gases which has received much attention is the washing of sulphur dioxide from the flue gases on their way from the furnace to the chimney. At present this method is only practicable in very large installations and is being used at the Battersea and Bankside power stations in London. At Battersea which is coal fired 80% of the sulphur dioxide is removed. At the oil-fired station at Bankside more than 95% of the sulphur dioxide is removed.

In spite of what has been attempted in certain power stations the fact remains that if complete success was achieved in the removal of sulphur dioxide from the flue gases of power stations it would still leave more than three-quarters of the sulphur problem unsolved.

In general industry the scale of operations is so much less than in the electricity industry that no system of gas washing likely to operate at a reasonable cost is yet in sight. This does not however preclude the discovery of other methods of removing sulphur dioxide and much research is being carried out on the problem. The fact remains that economical methods of removing sulphur from fuels or from chimney gases are not yet available.

Domestic Smoke

Nearly half of all the smoke in the air comes from domestic chimneys. The proportion is greater in areas where houses predominate. Further, most of the domestic smoke is produced during the winter months when foggy conditions are most likely to occur. Although the smoke from domestic chimneys is less dense than that from industrial chimneys, it is discharged at low level and its harmful effects are thereby accentuated.

The Measurement of Air Pollution

(a) Grit and Dust Fall

An estimate of the grit and dust fall can be made by exposing a British Standard Deposit Gauge for monthly periods and studying (by weighing, and in special cases by analysing) the material collected. The result is expressed in milligrammes per square metre per day. A single gauge is unable to provide information about grit and dust beyond a very small radius.

It is found that the majority of gauges in urban areas (excluding those intended to monitor particular sources and those on the outskirts of towns sited to give minimum levels) give results between 50 and 150 mg/m^2 day for insoluble matter, with a yearly average for the whole country of 113 mg/m^2 day.

It should be noted that the deposit gauge collects only grit and dust, that is material coarse enough to settle out of the air under its own weight. It gives no information about fine particles, known as "smoke" which are so small as to remain airborne indefinitely, nor about gaseous impurities such as sulphur dioxide.

(b) Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide

In order to ascertain the level of pollution from smoke and sulphur dioxide a measured quantity of air is drawn through a filter upon which the particles are collected. The darkness of the resulting stain is related to the weight of smoke in the filter, unless particles overlie one another so that those covered up fail to contribute to the darkness of the stain. In the method being used in the National Survey a reflectometer (a photoelectric device) measures the light reflected from the stain as a percentage of that reflected from a clean filter. A calibration formula is applied to the reflectometer reading and the volume of air, to express the concentration of smoke in the air sampled in microgrammes per cubic metre.

Sulphur dioxide reacts instantaneously with hydrogen peroxide to give sulphuric acid. Air which has been drawn through the smoke filter is therefore next bubbled through a dilute solution of hydrogen peroxide, and the resulting acid measured. From this, and the volume of air sampled, the concentration of sulphur dioxide is calculated in microgrammes per cubic metre.

Section II

The Local Problem

(a) Domestic Smoke

There are approximately 8,000 domestic premises in the urban district the majority of which burn solid fuel in their fireplaces. The resultant visible smoke and invisible gases including sulphur dioxide are given off at a comparatively low level, particularly is this so in the case of the post-war

bungalow development which has taken place in the town. The smoke emitted from domestic chimneys is rarely black in colour but the significant quantity can be observed, particularly on an early autumn evening, by anyone standing on the higher ground on the periphery and looking across the town.

Since October, 1957 the Building Byelaws in force in the urban district have required that "there shall be provided in a new building only such appliances for heating or cooking as are suitably designed for burning any of the following fuels, viz:- (a) gas; (b) electricity; (c) coke or anthracite or other appliances of a description exempted conditionally or unconditionally from the provisions of Section 11 of the Clean Air Act, 1956 (which relates to smoke control areas) by an order for the time being in force under subsection (4) of that section".

It is presumed that all dwellings which have been completed since the byelaw became effective are provided with appliances which would enable the occupier to burn one of the approved fuels.

This point is significant if the Council determine to control domestic smoke by means of the creation of smoke control areas as authorised by Section 11, Clean Air Act, 1956, because no expense should fall upon either the Council or the occupier of such houses in the event of a particular estate or estates begun after the byelaw became effective being declared a Smoke Control Area.

In February, 1962 I discussed the question of the availability of approved fuels and the extent of sale of such fuels in the town with Mr. L. Locket, Clean Air Advisor for the South East Region of the Coal Merchants'Federation. It was estimated that some 43% of the domestic fuel requirements in the town was in fact taken up in approved fuels. It was suggested to me that it would be difficult to increase the supply of approved fuels with the exception of coke. There is undoubtedly a consumer resistance, in some quarters, to the use of coke, now sold under such trade names as Gloco etc., but such fuel can be burnt successfully in a properly designed firegrate.

It is estimated that the annual amount of solid fuel burnt in domestic premises is approximately 14,000 tons per annum.

(b) <u>Industrial</u>

There are some 13 steam raising plants ranging from small vertical boilers to very large water tube boilers, 3 cupola furnaces, 2 rotary cement kilns, a continuous brick kiln, 7 intermittent brick kilns and numbers of clamps in which bricks are burnt.

Of the industrial plants listed those connected with the production of cement, the manufacture of bricks either in continuous or intermittent kilns are controlled by H.M.Alkali Inspector, whilst the other industrial plants and manufacture of bricks in clamps are within the jurisdiction of the local authority.

The annual consumption of solid fuel burnt in industrial plants is 358,108 tons; one plant consumes over 85%, whilst another plant consumes 13% of the annual total. Of the remaining 2% of solid fuel burnt in industrial plants, over a quarter is in the form of coke. Little or no problem arises from smoke in plants burning coke although it must be remembered that the invisible products of combustion, such as sulphur dioxide, are emitted to the atmosphere.

Of the 3 cupola furnaces in operation, although they burn metallurgical coke (90 tons) offensive fumesand possibly grit are emitted and these can cause a local nuisance, e.g. Frederick Street area.

In addition to the solid fuel consumed, approximately 290,000 gallons of oil are burnt annually in industrial plants. Of this total approximately 80% is burnt at two plants whilst the remainder is burnt in comparatively small plants.

With certain exceptions, which are discussed later, the plants operate within the requirements of the Clean Air Act. It cannot be over-emphasised, however, that even if all the solid fuel and all the oil was burnt without visible smoke there would still be discharged into the atmosphere invisible gases including sulphur dioxide.

Section III

In order that Members may be fully informed concerning certain of the major industrial sources of pollution, it is felt that the particular processes should be discussed in some detail.

Brick Industry

At the present time bricks are manufactured within the urban district by three methods, viz. (1) clamps; (2) intermittent kilns; and (3) continuous kilns.

(a) Clamps

These are used in South East England to fire stock bricks. A clamp consists of $\frac{1}{4}$ to 1 million bricks, each containing a certain amount of combustible material, set out in a field in the form of a rectangle 30 bricks high with layers of coke at the base and part way up the setting, and which is set alight at one end. Being out in the open fumes are emitted as the bricks are burned, which it is impossible to prevent. The bricks are fired under reducing conditions in the clamp and in this way is obtained the range of colour variations sought by the architect and which is characteristic of the traditional stock brick produced in this area.

This method is operated at a brickyard in the town, and some 14 clamps are burnt during a period of 12 months.

Although relatively small quantities of fuel are used nevertheless the fumes, which have a characteristic smell, are given off at ground level for fairly long periods. The actual nature of these fumes is not known precisely but on the basis of work carried out by H.M.Alkali Inspector dealing with the nature and extent of emissions from clamps, which is contained in an unpublished Departmental Paper, it would appear that the emission of both hydrogen sulphide and sulphur dioxide are considerably less than was formerly thought probable. Nevertheless there is still emitted the characteristic smell of the clamp, somewhat similar to that given off by a burning colliery spoil bank or a refuse tip which is burning, and which may possibly be connected with the use of screened household refuse as a combustible within the brick itself.

At the present time in this area, clamps are not regarded as scheduled processes and are therefore the responsibility of the local authority. In view of the technical problems associated with this method and also because other methods of brick production are scheduled and controlled by the Alkali Inspector it would seem reasonable that all methods of brick making should be scheduled. Indeed I understand that the only reason that clamps are not scheduled is because of a technicality in the wording of the Act.

It should also be noted that the percentage wastage in this form of burning is higher than in other methods of brick production and it follows that if the brick industry run into economic difficulties this method will go out of use before the others. The main reason being that the cost of preparation of the brick up to the burning stage is the same for all methods of burning, but the wastage is higher with clamp produced bricks.

(b) Intermittent Kilns

These kilns, by design and method of operation, cannot avoid very easily the emission of some dark smoke during their operation.

The 5 intermittent kilns operated at one of the brickyards are of the down draught type, rectangular in shape with a series of fireholes at the sides. The kilns are provided with low stacks. The 2 intermittent kilns at another brickyard are top fired through small firing holes and the products of combustion are discharged by means of chimneys 117 ft and 125 ft respectively.

Intermittent kilns aremainly used because of the variable output of different products, such output being insufficient to warrant using a continuous kiln.

The advantage of intermittent kilns is their flexibility in that the firing and cooling schedule and the atmosphere within the kiln can be adjusted to suit the firing of any product and the number of kilns in use at any one time can be adjusted to the current demand.

Considerable experience is necessary to fire a kiln to give good yields of satisfactory products from top to bottom of the kiln. The kilns, according to their size, hold varying amounts of thermally low conducting ware, set to a height which may vary from 8 ft to 18 ft, which must be heated under specified

conditions so that certain specific chemical or physical reactions may take place at the appropriate time, and so that at the finish of firing the temperatures are as uniform as possible from top to bottom of the kiln. The basis for satisfactory firing of this type of kiln is long flame combustion.

The kilns are fed by hand with coal to grates and dark smoke is liable to be emitted at some stages of the firing, for instance after cleaning fires; during the water-smoking period from 0 - 250°C when the kiln is relatively cold. The operating firm in order to reduce dark smoke emission at this stage have, during recent years, substituted coke for coal. Dark smoke may, however, be emitted at the stage when the temperature at the top of the kiln is of the order of 400 - 700°C, that is hot enough to generate volatile gases quickly from the fireholes but not sufficiently hot in the kiln to promote combustion of these gases even if sufficient air is mixed with them. When reducing conditions are required at the higher temperature period of the firing to give colour and other effects smoke emissions are heavy.

The British Ceramic Research Association has carried out considerable research work over a long period of time in order to produce methods of firing which whilst reducing smoke emission to the atmosphere will produce bricks with all the well known characteristics of the brick as produced under the traditional methods. So far, in spite of considerable experimentation, this objective has not been entirely achieved.

Various methods are now being tried out and indeed the firm concerned are considering the possibility of oil firing. The adoption of oil firing may reduce smoke emission but sulphur products would continue to be discharged at a low level.

The control of this type of kiln is under H.M.Alkali Inspector as the process is scheduled. Even if the local authority is satisfied that nuisance is being caused and that the best practical means were not being adopted, action could not be taken in the Courts except with the consent of the Minister of Housing and Local Government. This, however, is not to say that the local authority can do nothing about a problem of this sort. For some time past I have had regular consultations with H.M.Alkali Inspector upon this problem. A practical economic solution has not yet been found but I am satisfied that if and when a suitable solution is found it would be applied to these kilns. I cannot, however, hold out any hope that this will be in the near future. The fuel consumption of these plants is a relatively small amount viewed against the total domestic and industrial fuel consumption in the town.

Certain ancillary plant in connection with brick production is within the jurisdiction of the local authority and action can be taken under the Clean Air Act if nuisance arises.

In the case of certain of the ancillary plant at one of the brickyards nuisance does occur from time to time. The firm concerned are aware of this and I understand that the provision of mechanical stokers, which would remedy the nuisance, is at the present time under active consideration.

(c) Continuous Kilns

Auto-tunnel kiln

The continuous kiln, which is in operation at one of the brickyards, is of the tunnel type and because of its arrangement can be operated almost smokelessly. Stated quite simply a car of green bricks is put in at one end of the kiln and a car of fired bricks leaves the other end.

This kiln is under the control of H.M.Alkali Inspector and, so far as I am aware, the actual kiln operates without nuisance. Ancillary boiler plant, which is under the jurisdiction of the Local Authority, does not operate within the provisions of the Clean Air Act. I understand that the question of the provision of mechanical stoking is under active consideration by the Firm.

Cement Manufacture

Two rotary cement kilns are operated at a cement works in the town. The works are controlled by H.M.Alkali Inspector as the process is scheduled. The products of combustion are discharged into the atmosphere by means of two chimney stacks 95 ft and 94 ft high.

Judged by the appearance of the stack tops there is no doubt that dust is emitted in the flue gases although, except in close proximity to the Works, there is little visual evidence and indeed no complaints have been received on this point since 1948. It should be noted that hourly output of cement is relatively small, some 20 tons per hour, and thus even with an emission of .5% the weight of dust emitted would be 2 cwts per hour. In the absence of Deposit Gauges it is quite impossible to assess accurately the extent of this problem.

There is ample evidence, however, that the plume under certain wind and atmospheric conditions does come down to ground level and in this case the characteristic smell of the gases is obvious. Indeed the actual plume has been observed to reach ground level at least one mile from the cement kiln chimneys. The plume has actually been observed as near to the Works as Church Street, Murston, and as far away as Kemsley Village, whilst the characteristic smell of the flue gases have been observed at a distance of over 1½ miles from the chimneys.

In the foggy period of the 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th December, 1962, it was apparent on the morning of the 6th December that there was heavy pollution of the atmosphere with sulphur products in the centre of the town, combined with the characteristic "Creek" smell which was extremely objectionable, and a number of complaints were made. Although it might be argued that the brickyard was making a significant contribution to the pollution in the centre of the town on this occasion, it was, nevertheless, the fact that the movement of smoke was from the north east and the smell was noted in positions to the north of the brickyard where any contribution from the brickyard source could have no effect on the situation.

Judged purely on visual and smell observations it is apparent that the height of the chimneys attached to the Cement Kilns is too low. In order to ensure that the products of combustion from this source do not fall on the town, a much higher stack, perhaps of 300 ft to 350 ft is required. The actual height required would need further examination of the many technical questions involved. This would ensure a better dispersal of the products of combustion even under conditions of temperature inversion and would tend to prevent the deposition of emitted dust on the ground.

Power Stations

Although there are no power stations generating electricity for the public supply, there is a power station serving large industrial plant. The coal consumption at this plant is considerable.

The chimney stacks at the plant vary from a height of 100 ft to 200 ft.

Observation of the behaviour of smoke from the stacks does not suggest that visible smoke reaches ground level within the urban district. This is not to say that under particular weather conditions invisible products of combustion e.g. sulphur dioxide do not reach ground level. I, however, have no personal evidence of this, although a colleague in an adjoining area has informed me that he has on occasion noticed the characteristic smell of the products of combustion in Borden Village and that, in his view, it emanated from these stacks. This is obviously possible, but in my view it could only happen on a few occasions in the course of a year and that the products of combustion would be considerably diluted by the natural processes.

The plant is operating to a high degree of efficiency within the standards laid down in the Clean Air Act, 1956, but it must be borne in mind that it is the major coal consumer in the area.

In 1957 the steam raising arrangements for the industrial plants were concentrated at one centre. Steam being piped to the points at which it was required. This resulted in a considerable saving in fuel consumption and hence atmospheric pollution.

Section IV

The Creek

It has to be acknowledged that Milton Creek is heavily polluted and that offensive emanations arise from time to time.

The characteristic smell is that of Sulphuretted Hydrogen. So far as can be ascertained by conversation with townspeople who have lived near the Creek for considerable periods this smell has always been apparent on occasion.

In spite of the length of time the "Creek" smell has been apparent in the town, I have been unable to find out the pattern the smell takes or of the

precise weather and/or tide conditions with which it is associated. It would seem that here is a line of local research which might be undertaken by a small body of local persons over a period of say 2 years. By this I mean that if a suitable number of responsible people in selected situations would undertake to let the Council know when they first smell what they consider to be the "Creek" smell the information could be correlated with weather and tide conditions and to otherfactors and thus valuable information would be obtained which may possibly lead to a more precise understanding of the problem and hence to a possible long term solution.

Even if all pollution of the Creek was eliminated, I can see no hope in the foreseeable future of an end of this smell.

There seems to be reasonable evidence, however, that on occasion the smell is admixed with products of combustion which tends to make the combined pollution more offensive.

In the absence of an economic method of removing sulphur products from flue gases of industrial plants (this is unlikely in the case of small plants) I cannot see how the admixture referred to can be completely prevented. The possibility of such an admixture occurring can I suggest be reduced by ensuring that the products of combustion from industrial plants are discharged at a high level so that, except under extreme weather conditions, the products of combustion will be more readily dispersed by natural processes before they could reach ground level. There could, however, be no absolute guarantee that this condition would never occur. Experience elsewhere has shown that a stack of 300 ft to 350 ft has invariably proved effective.

Section V

Measurement of Air Pollution

(a) I have discussed the question of air pollution and its measurement in the urban district with Messrs. Goss and Davies of the Air Pollution Division of D.S.I.R., Warren Spring Laboratory.

Following our discussion and a tour of the area, Mr. Goss put forward the following points:-

1. At no part of the area does there seem to be a problem of grit deposition sufficient to necessitate the undertaking of measurement of deposited matter.

2. Three volumetric instruments for the daily measurement of smoke and sulphur dioxide should suffice to give information regarding the level of pollution and the variation thereof in the town centre and the residential areas.

3. The Brick Works near the town centre would appear to be a suitable subject for a separate small survey of suspended matter and sulphur dioxide, using a number of readily portable instruments.

The three suggested localities for the daily instruments are -

(a) The Borden Lane area - possibly at Barrow Grove County Primary School.

(b) Adjoining Canterbury Road in the eastern part of the town centre - possibly at Canterbury Road County Primary School.

(c) At Milton - possibly in the Branch Library.

A further suggestion is made that "a worth-while addition to the pattern of three measuring sites, which you may like to consider, would be a further instrument outside the district to the eastwards (say at Teynham, if the appropriate local authority could be induced to co-operate) so that it might be possible, by correlating pollution readings from all four sites with wind and weather data, to determine how much of the pollution from your major industrial sources carries to parts of your district and to points outside it".

(b) In carrying out a survey of the sort envisaged it is essential to be able to correlate the results obtained with prevailing weather conditions. Mr. G. Hardy, Headmaster, Borden Grammar School, has kindly intimated that the weather data prepared by the School Weather Station would be made available to the Council.

(c) Two types of instrument are available for making measurements of smoke and sulphur dioxide -

(i) The daily instrument.

(ii) The 8 port instrument.

Whatever type of instrument is chosen, each must be sited within a building and a supply of electricity is necessary.

The daily instrument requires a daily visit at approximately the same time each day. Apart from weekends and holiday periods daily visits to three sites would be burdensome and it would be difficult to fit them into the pattern of the Department's work.

The 8 port instrument on the other hand must be visited and serviced once a week and from the point of view of staff economy is the one I would recommend.

The estimated cost of providing the instruments, as suggested by D.S.I.R. is:-

(i) Daily Instruments

	£.	s.	d.
Chemicals, apparatus etc	10	0	0
3 Instruments complete	210	0	0
Reflectometer	43	0	0
	£ 263	0	0

(ii) 8 Port Instruments

	£.	s.	d.
Chemicals, apparatus etc	10	0	0
3 Instruments complete	420	0	0
Reflectometer	43	0	0
	£ 473	0	0

It is estimated that the annual running costs when provided (exclusive of any site rentals) would be £20.

Summary.

(1) General considerations with regard to atmospheric pollution are stated.

(2) Consideration is given to the domestic smoke problem and it is indicated that if the Council so desire this can be controlled by means of Smoke Control Orders.

(3) The extent of industrial fuel consumption is discussed.

(4) Consideration is given to the problem of fume emission at a comparatively low level from cement kiln stacks. It is suggested that a single high stack is required to prevent or reduce the effects at ground level within the Urban District.

(5) The low level emissions of smoke and fumes at a brickyard near the centre of the town are discussed.

(6) The "Creek" smell is discussed and a suggestion is put forward for a small local survey to determine its pattern and to correlate the information with weather and tide data.

(7) The suggestions of D.S.I.R. for a system of measuring the level of smoke and sulphur dioxide pollution within the town is presented together with the cost of alternative instruments.

(8) The view is expressed that it is possible to reduce the amount of visible smoke both from domestic and industrial sources but that it is not yet possible to reduce the emission of sulphur dioxide into the atmosphere from appliances burning solid fuel or oil.

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31st January, 1963.